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Annual Program Summary and Monitoring Report

for Fiscal Year 2003

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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interest of all our people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in Island Territories under U.S. administration.

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Cover Photo: *A serious fisherman waits for a bite at the Medford District's Free Fishing Day, held annually at Hyatt Lake.*

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INTRODUCTION

This Annual Program Summary (APS) is a review of the programs on the Medford District Bureau of Land Management for the period of October 2002 through September 2003. The program summary is designed to report to the public, local, state and federal agencies a broad overview of activities and accomplishments for fiscal year 2003. This report addresses the accomplishments for the Medford District in such areas as watershed analysis, Jobs-in-the-Woods, forestry, recreation and other programs. Included in the Annual Program Summary is the Monitoring Report for the Medford District.

In April 1994 the Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl was signed by the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior. The Resource Management Plan/Record of Decision (RMP/ROD) was approved and adopted in April 1995 incorporating the Standards and Guidelines from the Northwest Forest Plan (NFP) in the form of Management Actions/Directions.

Both the NFP and the RMP embrace the concepts of ecosystem management in a broader perspective than had been traditional in the past. Land use allocations covering all federal lands within the range of the spotted owl were established in the NFP. Analyses such as watershed analyses and late-successional reserve assessments are conducted at broader scale and involve landowners in addition to BLM. Requirements to conduct standardized surveys or inventories for special status species have been developed for implementation at the regional level.

Implementation of the NFP began in April 1994 with the signing of the Northwest Forest Plan Record of Decision. Subsequently, with the signing of the RMP Record of Decision in April 1995, the Medford District began implementation of the RMP which incorporates all aspects of the Northwest Forest Plan.

The Medford District administers approximately 859,000 acres located in Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Coos, and Curry counties. Under the NFP and RMP/ROD, management of these lands are included in three primary Land Use Allocations: the Matrix, where the majority of commodity production will occur; Late-Successional Reserves, where providing habitat for late-successional and old-growth forest related species is emphasized; and Riparian Reserves, where maintenance of water quality and the aquatic ecosystem is emphasized. The RMP established objectives for management of 17 resource programs occurring on the District. Not all land use allocations and resource programs are discussed individually in a detailed manner in the APS because of the overlap of programs and projects. Likewise, a detailed background of the various land use allocations or resource programs is not included in the APS to keep this document reasonably concise. Complete information can be found in RMP/ROD and supporting Environmental Impact Statement, both of which are available at the District Office.

RMP Planning Area, Summary of Resource Management Actions, Directions, and Accomplishments

RMP Resource Allocation or Management Practice or Activity	Activity Units	Fiscal Year 2003 Accomplishments or Program Status	Cumulative Practices, since RMP approval	Projected Decadal Practices
Forest and Timber Resources				
Regeneration harvest (acres offered)	Acres	456	4,137	10,400
Commercial thinning/density management/ uneven age harvest (acres offered) (HLB)	Acres	6,406	55,155	44,900
Commercial thinning/density management/ uneven age harvest (acres offered) (Reserves)	Acres	174	1,305	N/A
Timber volume offered (HLB)	MM board feet/MM cubic feet	47.8/8.0	393.2/66.9	571/96.9
Timber volume offered (reserves)	MM board feet/ MM cubic feet	1.85/3.8	10.2/17.3	N/A
Pre-commercial thinning (HLB)	Acres	668	31,552	78,000
Pre-commercial thinning (Reserves)	Acres	164	164	N/A
Brushfield/hardwood conversion	Acres	0	0	N/A
Site preparation (prescribed fire)	Acres	150	41,285	24,000**
Site preparation - other (specify)	Acres	0	—	N/A
Fuels Treatment Acres (prescribed fire)	Acres	6,956	41,285	24,000 **
Fuels Treatment Acres (mechanical and other methods)	Acres	13,749	44,718	N/A
Planting--regular stock	Acres	3,562	11,226	2,700
Planting--genetically selected	Acres	246	3,087	10,300
Fertilization	Acres	0	2,222	57,000
Pruning	Acres	715	6,005	18,600

* Cumulative acres for Site Prep burning and Fuel Treatment burning have been combined.

**Decadal estimates for Site Prep burning and Fuel Treatment burning have been combined.

RMP Resource Allocation or Management Practice or Activity	Activity Units	Fiscal Year 2003 Accomplishments or Program Status	Cumulative Practices, since RMP approval	Projected Decadal Practices
Noxious Weeds				
Noxious weeds chemical control	acres	314	1,305	N/A
Noxious weeds, by other control methods	acres	1,927	9,556	N/A
Rangeland Resources				
Livestock grazing permits or leases	Annual leases/10 yr renewals	51/0	N/A	N/A
Animal Unit Months (actual)		9,200	N/A	N/A
Livestock fences constructed or maintained	Units / miles	19/3.0	49/24	N/A
Realty Actions				
Realty, land sales	Actions/acres	0	1/120	N/A
Realty, land purchase	Actions/acres	0	3/314	N/A
Realty, land exchanges	Actions/acres acquired/acres disposed	0	3/7657/3306	N/A
Realty, R&PP leases/patents	Actions/Acres	1	1	N/A
Realty, road easements acquired for public/agency use	Actions	5	63	N/A
Realty, road rights-of-way granted	Actions	50	259	N/A
Realty, utility rights-of-way granted	Actions	12	56	N/A
Realty, utility rights-of-way granted (communication sites)	Actions	0	5	N/A
Special Use Permits	Actions	7	36	N/A
Realty, withdrawals completed	Actions/acres	0	0	N/A
Realty, withdrawals revoked	Actions/acres	0	0	N/A
Energy and Minerals Actions				
Mineral/energy, total oil and gas leases	Actions/acres	0	0	N/A
Mineral/energy, total other leases	Actions/acres	0	0	N/A
Mining plans approved	Actions/acres	0	1	N/A
Mining claims patented	Actions/acres	0	0	N/A
Mineral materials sites opened	Actions/acres	0	1	N/A
Mineral material sites closed	Actions/acres	0	0	N/A
Recreation and Off-Highway Vehicles				
Maintained off-highway vehicle trails	Number/miles	2/105	7/1,118	N/A
Maintained hiking trails	Number/miles	8/114	51/516	N/A
Recreation sites maintained	Number/acres	8/200	38/1,697	N/A
Cultural Resources				
Cultural resource inventories	Sites/acres	23/2,577	437/56,656	N/A
Cultural/historic sites nominated	Sites/acres	0/0	21/608	N/A
Hazardous Materials				
Hazardous material sites, identified	Sites	40	173	N/A
Hazardous material sites, remediated	Sites	16	107	N/A

BUDGET

The Medford District receives its annual operating budget from Congressionally appropriated funds and other non-appropriated revenue sources. All BLM appropriated funds are identified in the Interior Appropriations and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill or emergency supplemental appropriations. In fiscal year 2003, the Medford District received a total of $21,673,000 in Oregon and California Land Grant appropriations; $2,885,00,000 in Management of Lands & Resources appropriations; and $26,940,000 in special appropriations, fire related appropriations and non-appropriated funds. Special appropriations exclude MLR and O&C appropriations and include emergency fire rehabilitation, fuels treatment and hazard reduction, emergency flood repair, and land acquisition funds. Non-appropriated sources include funding from forest ecosystem health and recovery funds, timber sale pipeline restoration funds, road use fee collections, recreation fee demonstration collections, reimbursements for work performed for other agencies, trust funds, appropriated funds transferred to BLM from other agencies, and other miscellaneous collection accounts. Unspent funds for previous years that were carried forward in fiscal year 2002 are also included. The total available monetary resources in fiscal year 2002 to the Medford District were $51,498,000.

Appropriation	FY1999	FY2000	FY2001	FY2002	FY2003
Oregon and California Land Grant	16,045,000	19,532,000	21,532,000	22,650,000	21,673,000
Management of Lands & Resources	702,000	1,227,000	1,867,000	2,714,000	2,885,000
Special Appropriation and Other Non-appropriated Funds	13,102,000	12,043,000	11,989,000	19,294,000	26,940,000
Total	**29,849,000**	**32,802,000**	**35,388,000**	**44,658,000**	**51,498,000**

Medford District Office.

LAND USE ALLOCATIONS

Lands administered by the BLM will be managed to maintain or restore healthy, functioning ecosystems from which a sustainable production of natural resources can be provided. Ecosystem management involves the use of ecological, economic, social and managerial principles to achieve healthy and sustainable natural systems.

The building blocks for this strategy are composed of several major land use allocations: riparian reserves; late-successional reserves; adaptive management areas; matrix, which includes general forest management areas and connectivity/diversity blocks; and a variety of special purpose management areas such as recreation sites, wild and scenic rivers, and visual resource management areas.

The Medford District has the following major land allocations:*

Congressional Reserves	14,267
Late-Successional Reserves	178,467
Late-Successional Reserve within AMA	32,937
Marbled Murrelet Reserve	3,478
District Defined Reserves	1,290
Connectivity/Diversity Blocks	27,237
Applegate Adaptive Management Area	113,912
Reserved Habitat Area	16,732
General Forest Management Area	470,776
Total	**859,096**

*Allocations do not have any overlapping designations. There are approximately 369,200 acres of riparian reserves.

Late Successional Reserves

Late successional reserves (LSRs) are areas established by the NFP and the Medford District RMP to maintain functional interactive late-successional and old growth forest ecosystems. They are designed to serve as habitat for late-successional and old growth related species including the northern spotted owl.

The Medford District contains portions of five late-successional reserves designated in the Resource Management Plan: Elk Creek, Azalea, Galice Block, Munger Butte and Jenny Creek. All reserve areas have had assessments completed on them.

Galice block LSR in the Grants Pass Resource Area

AQUATIC CONSERVATION STRATEGY

The Aquatic Conservation Strategy (ACS) was developed to restore and maintain the ecological health of watersheds and aquatic ecosystems contained within them on public lands. The strategy is to protect salmon and steelhead habitat on federal lands managed by the BLM. This conservation strategy employs several tactics to approach the goal of maintaining the "natural" disturbance regime. The ACS strives to maintain and restore ecosystem health at watershed and landscape scales to protect habitat for fish and other riparian-dependent species and resources, and to restore currently degraded habitat.

Silvicultural practices have been implemented within riparian reserves to control stocking, reestablish and manage stands, and acquire desired vegetation characteristics needed to attain Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives. These silvicultural practices include tree planting, precommercial thinning, and density management thinning.

Watershed analysis is required by the Northwest Forest Plan (NFP) Record of Decision (ROD). Watershed analysis includes:

- Analysis of the at-risk fish species and stocks, their presence, habitat conditions and restoration needs;
- Description of the landscape over time, including the impacts of humans, their roles in shaping the landscape, and the effects of fire;
- The distribution and abundance of species and populations throughout the watershed; and
- Characteristics of the geological and hydrologic conditions.

This information was obtained from a variety of sources, including field inventory and observation, history books, agency records, and old maps and survey records.

A supplemental environmental impact statement has been written to clarify the Aquatic Conservation Strategy. The intent is to clarify the wording in the NWFP Record of Decision to better convey the intent of the scientists who originally framed the ACS. The Final EIS was completed in October of 2003 and a Record of Decision will follow.

Watershed Analysis

First and second iteration watershed analyses have been completed for 93 and 19 percent, respectively, of the BLM-administered lands in the Medford District. No new watershed analyses were completed in FY 2003. Completed watershed analyses may be found on the Medford District web site (http://www.or.blm.gov/medford).

Watershed Restoration and Jobs-in the-Woods Projects

In FY 2003, watershed analysis continued to assist in identifying the District's watershed restoration projects and BLM projects were coordinated with local watershed associations' projects and priorities to supplement District projects. "Jobs-in-the Woods" (JITW) funding is part of the regional collaborative effort to improve the health of the land and restore watersheds while at the same time providing economic assistance to local communities.

The Medford District, in coordination with other federal, state and local governments, continued to participate in the "Jobs-in-the-Woods/Watershed Restoration Program." The program provides on-the-job training opportunities for people displaced from forestry-related work. In addition to hiring crews, funds from this program were used to hire local area contractors to do restoration work. In fiscal year 2003, "Jobs-in-the-Woods" funded $918,000 in projects for in three counties.

Watershed Council Coordination

The District coordinates and offers assistance to a number of watershed associations. This provides an excellent forum for exchange of ideas, partnering, education and promoting watershed-wide restoration. The District is active with approximately 14 watershed associations.

AIR QUALITY

All prescribed fire activities conformed to the Oregon Smoke Management and Visibility Protection Plans. No intrusions occurred as a result of prescribed burning and fuels treatment activities into designated areas on the District. The prescribed program on the Medford District has adapted to the ecosystem management under the RMP. Air quality considerations in prescribed burn plans include burning when good smoke mixing and dispersal exists, and prompt mopping up of burned units to reduce residual smoke.

WATER AND SOIL QUALITY

Watershed Analysis

First and second iteration watershed analyses have been completed for 93 and 19 percent, respectively, of the BLM-administered lands in the Medford District. No new watershed analyses were completed in FY 2003. Completed watershed analyses may be found on the Medford District website (http://www.or.blm.gov/medford).

Water Quality Limited--303(d) Streams

Approximately 100 streams included on the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) 2002 Section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Waterbodies cross BLM-administered land in the Medford District. These streams are listed primarily as "water quality limited" due to temperature, but some stream segments are listed for additional reasons such as dissolved oxygen, biological criteria, fecal coliform, e-coli, and sedimentation. These stream segments are evaluated as part of the watershed analysis process. The Medford District is working cooperatively with the Oregon DEQ to develop Total Maximum Daily Loads and Water Quality Management Plans (WQMPs) for 303(d) listed streams on BLM-administered lands. Water Quality Restoration Plans (WQRPs) for federal lands are prepared by the BLM and U.S. Forest Service and incorporated in DEQ's WQMPs. Three WQRPs have been completed for watersheds on the Medford District: Sucker-Grayback Creek (1999), Grave Creek (2001), and Lower Sucker Creek (2002).

Monitoring

Riparian assessments for functioning condition status were conducted on 191 stream miles in FY 2003. These stream miles plus an additional 78 stream miles were surveyed for stream and channel characteristics. This information is being used for project planning and the hydrography theme update (see below). Summer stream temperature was monitored using recording instruments at 174 sites; streamflow, turbidity, and precipitation were measured at 94, 152, and 9 sites respectively. Channel cross sections were surveyed at 37 sites.

Hydrography Geographical Information System (GIS) Theme Update

The hydrography theme update project in the Medford District is part of a larger effort between State and Federal agencies in the Pacific Northwest. The objective of this effort is to create a single high-resolution hydrography network that will be co-managed and web-accessible via a server at the BLM State Office. The Medford District is responsible for providing an accurate portrayal of the spatial density of the stream network, polygon features (e.g. lakes and ponds), and point features (e.g. springs and wells) in addition to capturing pertinent attribute information such as stream type (fish bearing, perennial or intermittent) and fish species for water bodies within the District. The hydrography update has been completed for 95 percent of the District. More information on this project may be found at the BLM State Office and REO web sites: http://www.or.blm.gov/gis/projects/water_resources/index.asp and http://www.hydro.reo.gov.

Watershed Restoration Projects, Jobs-in-the-Woods

The Jobs-the-Woods program was established to mitigate the economic and social impacts of a reduced timber harvest in the Pacific Northwest while addressing the issue of watershed restoration. Fiscal year 2003, the tenth year for the program, resulted in a budget of more than $918,000 for on-the-ground projects. Direction for the types of projects to be funded included those that furthered goals of watershed restoration, the aquatic conservation strategy and the Governors Coastal Salmon Initiative.

FY 2003 Projects

Native Grass Seed Production
Texter Gulch Road Decommissioning
Grouse Creek Culvert Replacement
Soda Mountain Fence Project
White Creek Culvert Replacement
Wolf Creek Culvert Replacement
Slate Creek Culvert Replacement
Bear Creek Culvert Replacement
Nine Mile Ck #2 Culvert Replacement
Nine Mile Creek Culvert Replacement
Benson Gulch Culvert Replacement
Clarke Creek Overflow
Trail Creek Slump Repair
Spencer Gulch Road Relocation
Punchion Bridge Project
North Fork & Crooks Ck Culverts
Fizzleout Creek Culvert Replacement
Miscellaneous Culvert Modifications
Quartz Creek Culvert Replacement
Pickett Creek Culvert Replacement
Ladybug Gulch Road Drainage Project
Lightning Gulch Culvert Replacement
Clark Creek Road Decommissioning
Sugarpine/North Fork Big Butte Project

BLM Medford is working with multi-agency groups, including local watershed councils, to further Jobs-in-the-Woods program objectives. Funds have been transferred to these groups over the last few years to implement fish habitat improvement projects. The Wyden Amendment and a memorandum of understanding that was signed by ten agencies (including the State of Oregon) are tools that are helping us incorporate a watershed approach which will address restoration needs across federal, state and private lands.

TERRESTRIAL HABITAT AND SPECIES MANAGEMENT

Green Tree Retention

Timber sales in the south General Forest Management Area (GFMA) maintain 16 to 25 large green trees per acre in harvest units. Units in the north GFMA maintain 6 to 8 trees per acre.

Snags and Snag Recruitment

Snags are left standing in units if they do not conflict with Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) safety guidelines and if they do not conflict with prescribed burning.

Coarse Wood

In conformance with the Northwest Forest Plan, all timber sale units maintain a minimum of 120 lineal feet of down logs per acre greater than or equal to 16 inches diameter, assuming there are downed logs on the site. Additional reserve standing trees provide for coarse wood recruitment for future decades. The District is evaluating down wood strategies following wildfires and incorporating alternatives in salvage planning efforts.

Connectivity

Designated connectivity blocks are spaced across the District. Twenty-five to 30 percent of each block (640 acre section) is to be maintained in late-successional forest, managed on a 150 year rotation. Harvest areas are to maintain a minimum 12 to 18 green trees per acre. Additional connectivity is provided by the riparian management network (100 to 300 feet on each side of the creek) and by 250 owl cores (100 acre LSRs).

Special Habitats/Special Status Species

The District is developing special habitat information to include special status species (SSS) distributions. Entrances to caves and old mine adits are continuing to be evaluated for closure. We are installing grates on abandoned mine entrances to minimize human disturbance to bat colonies. Meadows receive a 300-foot no-harvest buffer to maintain edge cover. The District continues to undertake prescribed fire projects to maintain historic fire-dependant oak woodlands and pine stands (see Big

Game Habitat). BLM continues its partnership with The Nature Conservancy to manage the Table Rocks and their associated vernal pool habitat. Critical habitat has been finalized for the fairy shrimp and plants that occur in the vernal pools. Butte Falls Resource Area is developing a management plan for the Table Rocks to maintain the unique features of this area.

A biologist has been summarizing data and information on Medford BLM special status species and observations, and is cooperating with neighboring offices and agencies to ensure the District has current distribution and status information on these rare species. An SSS database is being developed from that information.

Nest Sites and Activity Centers

Surveys were completed at historic detection areas for northern goshawks and great gray owls, both special status species, to the extent funding allowed. Hundreds of neotropical migratory birds were banded during the nesting season and during the fall migration at a Monitoring Avian Productivity & Survivorship (MAPS) mist netting station. The Medford District cooperates in two long-term monitoring projects begun in the Grants Pass (9 years) and Glendale (4 years) Resource Areas. Recapture rates exceed 30%, an extremely productive rate for MAPS stations.

Big Game Habitat, and Furbearers

Brush fields and oak woodlands continue to be treated with prescribed burning or mechanical treatments to improve habitat for big game and upland game birds, and to restore more historic ecological conditions in oak woodlands. Bait stations with cameras were continued in the Glendale, Grants Pass and Ashland Resource Areas to survey furbearer presence, particularly focusing on pine marten and fisher, both special status species

A fisher is photographed at one of the bait stations being used to help detect the presence of this species in the district.

Bats

In cooperation with Bat Conservation International, Boise Corporation, Southern Oregon University, Forest Service, the National Park Service and volunteers, the Glendale Resource Area continued testing three artificial bat roost designs in forested areas across SW Oregon. Results of the study, including the data from 2003, so clearly demonstrated preference for the “wedge” design that the challenge cost share study will be terminated early and will not need to be continued into 2004. Data from this study will be used to re-design effective bat houses across The West.

Several resource area biologists joined forces to conduct mist-netting for bats at potential feeding ponds throughout the District. Bats were captured, identified, sonograms recorded for some, and DNA sampling conducted. The objective of this monitoring is to establish baseline information on distribution, species presence, species sonogram and DNA variability to aid identification of these poorly studied and secretive mammals. Several bats in the Medford District are special status species.

Wildlife restoration projects were conducted at pump chances in several resource areas to improve the habitat for wildlife, particularly bats. Although designed for fire fighting, these pump chances can provide important wildlife habitat if designed and maintained for habitat objectives.

Survey and Manage/Protection Buffer Species

Each year the Medford District plans thousands of acres of projects that require clearances. To meet protocol standards for Survey and Manage (S&M) species, annual surveys cover far more area than the final project acres. Many protocols require more than one visit or multiple year surveys. Data on presence/absence is entered into the Interagency Species Management System (ISMS) data base. The Survey and Manage Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement was released to the public in 2003, with recommendations regarding each species. The final decision on S&M is scheduled for late spring, 2004. Status reviews have been conducted. Survey requirements for several species have been revised.

Red Tree Vole. Red tree vole surveys are required on all four Medford District resource areas, although Ashland has limited habitat. Suspected nest trees are climbed if money is available. Annually, thousands of acres are surveyed and several thousand trees are climbed for confirmation. For example, the Glendale Resource Area located 4,246 red tree vole trees during ground surveys and contracted the climbing of 1,143 trees. Overall, few of the trees that are climbed support red tree vole nests. The District is following interagency guidance for project mitigation.

Mollusks. Four S&M mollusk species are expected to occur on the Medford District, although not all species occur in each resource area. Thousands of acres of surveys are conducted annually, but few sites have been documented. The 2002 Annual Species review dropped *helminthoglypta hertleini* and changed the range for *pristiloma arcticum crateris* and *monademia chaceana. Deroceras reticulum* slug was added to the Ashland Resource Area survey requirements. Thousands of acres of habitat are surveyed for mollusks. For example, Glendale Resource Area surveyed 2,329 acres for mollusks.

Great Gray Owl. Upcoming sale units in suitable habitat (within 1,000 feet of meadows) have been surveyed to interagency protocol standards. Several nests are located each year, even though the District is on the fringe of the species' range. Historic detection areas were monitored. Conforming to Northwest Forest Plan guidance, a 300-foot buffer around meadow habitat is being maintained, and seasonal restrictions are imposed within a quarter mile of nest sites. A draft great gray owl survey protocol has been reviewed, but is not yet final. Among other changes, it proposes to include the lower elevations areas where great gray owls have been confirmed on the Medford District. Three great gray owls are currently outfitted with radio telemetry back packs. Additional radios will be attached if capture of these reclusive birds is successful. Ashland Resource Area is conducting vegetation analysis around known nest sites to discern habitat features and preferences important to great gray owls.

Threatened/Endangered Species

The Medford District joins with the Rogue River and Siskiyou National Forests to consult with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service on projects within the Rogue Basin to be sure that these projects are in compliance with the Endangered Species Act. A Biological Assessment for Fiscal Year 2001, 2002, and

2003 projects was completed.

Bald Eagle. Historic nest sites on BLM and adjacent nonfederal lands were monitored for occupancy and productivity. The species is undergoing review by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service for possible federal delisting. Grants Pass Resource Area is developing a bald eagle site plan for the Rogue River area.

Marbled Murrelet. The Grants Pass and Glendale Resource Areas cooperated with the Siskiyou National Forest in developing and validating a landscape scale sampling effort. As a result, Zones C and D have been dropped as required survey areas in the murrelet survey protocol. Because of this action, the efficacy of surveys increased and the expenditure of wildlife funds in areas now known to be out of the species' range was reduced. No murrelets have ever been detected on the District since the project began in 1993.

Northern Spotted Owl. The Medford District and its partners continued to study Northern Spotted Owls.

- The Glendale Resource Area conducted the demographic study of 58 historic owl sites to monitor the effectiveness of the Northwest Forest Plan.
- The National Council of Paper Industry for Air & Stream Improvement continued an adaptive management owl monitoring study in the Ashland Resource Area.
- Butte Falls Resource Area and Boise Cascade Corporation opportunistically monitored historic owl sites. They continue to monitor owl populations following the Table Rock fires. Research money is being sought to evaluate the effects of fires and salvage on owls.

Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp. In cooperation with the Oregon Natural Heritage Program and The Nature Conservancy, surveys for fairy shrimp continued in ephemeral pool habitat at the Table Rocks. This species was first discovered here in 1998, a 100-mile northward extension of the known range. Critical habitat for fairy shrimp was finalized by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service on the Table Rocks in 2003, in a small area encompassing the vernal pools.

Peregrine Falcon. The species was federally delisted in August 1999, but remains listed by the State of Oregon. Under the Federal delisting guidelines, agencies agree to continue monitoring peregrines following delisting. District personnel continued monitoring three sites on BLM land and two sites on adjacent private land. An additional new site was discovered on BLM land last year. Wildfires were close to some of the sites and monitoring in 2003 will evaluate how these sites fared post-fire. The USFWS released the post-delisting monitoring requirements for peregrine falcons. BLM will survey its designated sites to comply with the monitoring requirements and ensure the species has recovered sufficiently. Peregrines remain on the SSS list for BLM.

Consultation

Medford BLM and the Rogue River and Siskiyou National Forests collaborated on a regional programmatic consultation on all planned activities on the BLM and USFS over the next five years that may affect listed plant or wildlife species. The USFWS provided the agencies with a biological opinion. The biological assessment (BA) and the biological opinion (BO) will be posted on the Medford BLM web site. There were some minor typographic corrections since the final was signed. These corrections have been incorporated into the web site BA and BO, but errata sheets describing the corrections will also be included in the web site for tracking purposes. People who have or want copies of the BA or BO are advised to check the website for the latest correct version, noted by date.

AQUATIC HABITAT AND SPECIES MANAGEMENT

A variety of activities to maintain or enhance fisheries and fish habitat were conducted in fiscal year 2003. The primary focuses of the fisheries program were impact assessments for timber sales, road work and fuels treatment activities. Analyses were also completed for Endangered Species Act consultations and Jobs in the Woods projects. These activities represent the majority of the workload and also involve considerable time spent in field visits and meetings. The following are other activities performed by fisheries personnel on the Medford District.

Watershed Council Cooperation

The District provided technical assistance to ten Watershed Councils and Counties in support of the Bureau's commitment to the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds. BLM provided funding to Watershed Councils for various projects including lamprey monitoring, smolt trapping, gravel push-up dam removals and planning for development of Golden Coyote Wetlands resource interpretation.

Fish Passage

Fish passage is a high priority for range extension and an ongoing need in the Medford District. Ten culverts were replaced on coho salmon and steelhead streams to allow upstream migration to spawning and rearing habitat.

Population/Habitat Monitoring

Physical stream surveys were conducted on 42 miles of streams. Spawning surveys involved ten miles of coho and steelhead habitat. Snorkeling to estimate fish populations was completed on four miles of stream. Seven juvenile fish traps were

This boulder weir was constructed on West Fork Trail Creek to collect spawning gravels on a bedrock stream channel. The photo was taken immediately following construction of the weir and before it had a chance to collect any gravels.

operated to determine species composition, size, abundance, and timing of outmigration. Information was collected from the traps on five species including chinook and coho salmon, steelhead/rainbow and cutthroat trout, Klamath small-scale suckers and Pacific lamprey. The traps were monitored by BLM, U.S. Forest Service and Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife (ODFW) as part of a cooperative Challenge Cost Share project.

Presence-absence surveys for salmon, trout and lamprey were completed on approximately 64 miles of stream throughout the Rogue Basin in cooperation with ODFW. BLM partners with ODFW, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Oregon State University and the Watershed Councils to determine lamprey distribution, habitat use and overall population health.

Sensitive aquatic mollusk species monitoring totaled two acres of habitat. BLM and Southern Oregon University have a cooperative effort to monitor Jenny Creek sucker populations and habitat and compare the data observed the past decade. This work will help prioritize watershed restoration in the Jenny Creek watershed. Sucker Creek snorkeling surveys helped to determine the use of large wood placed in the stream by salmon.

Instream Habitat Improvement

BLM placed large wood in West Evans Creek at six sites to improve coho habitat on approximately two-and-one-half miles of stream.

Riparian Habitat Improvement

Dead snags were felled in one-and-one-half miles of tributary streams in the Elk Creek watershed as part of an Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation project to slow runoff, reduce erosion anticipated from the Timbered Rock fire and create salmon habitat.

Endangered Species Act

The District submitted six Biological Assessments to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Fisheries Office, for Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act consultation.

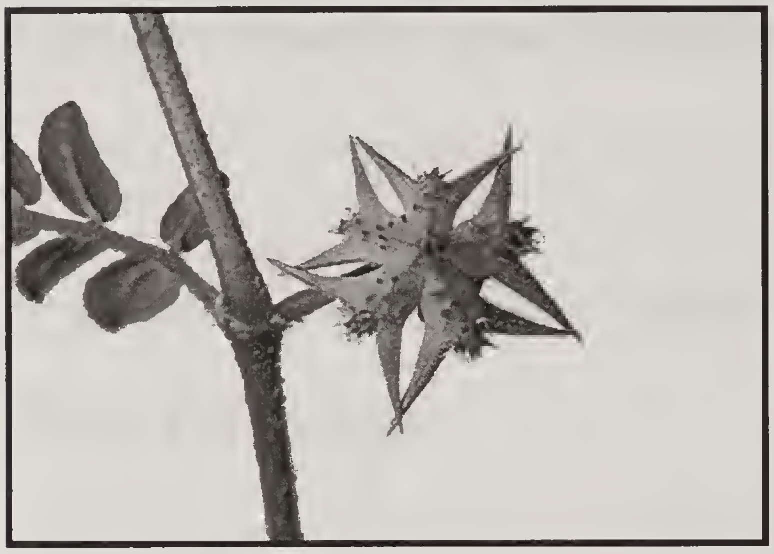
Public Outreach

Many educational presentations were conducted for Watershed Councils, schools and various other community groups. Fisheries personnel taught schoolchildren about water quality, riparian vegetation, aquatic insects and salmon life cycles at several of Oregon Trout's Salmon Watch events held around the Rogue Basin. Free Fishing Day and CAST for Kids Day events were held at BLM's Hyatt Lake Campground, providing loaner fishing gear, boat rides, and educational activities for the public. Other outreach activities included National Public Lands Day, the Junior Achievement Program and the Little Butte School Field Day. BLM continued a long-term Office Lobby display of chinook eggs and fry growing in an aquarium for public enjoyment.

WEED MANAGEMENT

Management and treatment of noxious weeds in the Medford District uses all aspects of integrated pest management and continues to be a critical element for all resource programs. Currently, the Medford District is emphasizing control of 13 species of exotic plants–yellow starthistle, purple loosestrife, puncturevine, diffuse knapweed, meadow knapweed, spotted knapweed, Dalmatian toadflax, rush skeletonweed, leafy spurge, tansy ragwort, Canada thistle, Scotch broom, Spanish broom. The number of sites targeted for treatment each year is subject to change depending upon new infestations, funding, cooperation from adjacent landowners and effectiveness of control methods.

The following is a partial list of accomplishments completed in 2003:



Seedhead of puncturevine, spread by humans, animals and vehicles, can lie dormant for as much as five years.

Education/Awareness

Weed control presentations made at county fairs, elementary to college level students, commercial businesses, other federal agencies, contractors, and other interest groups.

Prevention

We required equipment cleaning on all soil disturbing activities. We created contract stipulations requiring contactors to clean equipment prior to bringing it on BLM administered lands.

Inventory

During vascular plant surveys, 62,500 acres were inventoried for noxious weeds.

Control

Many if not all the species targeted for control in the district were treated using the following methods: 1,759 acres using manual methods, 314 acres using chemical controls, 68 acres utilizing a new hot foam (non-chemical) machine from New Zealand, and 100 acres using biological agents.

Monitoring

Monitoring continues on many, but not all, weed control projects.

BOTANICAL SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES

In order to meet Bureau policy to prevent the need to federally list any Bureau Special Status species, maintain the persistence of "survey and manage" species, and meet the requirements of the Endangered Species Act and the 2003 programmatic Biological Opinion for Listed plants, the following actions were taken on the Medford BLM in 2003.

Surveys

Project level surveys for Federal and State Listed, Bureau Special Status, and Survey and Manage (S&M) Plants:

Ashland:	18,998 ac
Butte Falls	24,988 ac
Glendale	12,187 ac
Grants Pass	21,619 ac
District:	**77,792 acres 1 within project areas.**

Finds

New occurrences (sites) of Federal and State listed, Bureau Special Status and S&M species were found in FY 2003. These occurrences were as small as a single plant or as large as a 20-acre polygon containing thousands of plants. The majority of rare plant sites are small with few plants occupying small areas.

Ashland Resource Area:	194 sites
Butte Falls Resource Area:	522 sites*
Glendale Resource Area:	104 sites
Grants Pass Resource Area	108 sites
District	**928 sites**

*(184 sites were S&M species that were de-listed following documentation of these sites)

Sites of Bureau Special Status and state or federally listed plants are generally protected from habitat disturbing activities by variable radius buffers.

Highlight:

Eleven new locations for *Fritillaria gentneri,* a listed endangered species, were found in 2003. This brings the total number of occurrences on lands managed by the Medford BLM to 103 sites, 2 containing approximately 1,700 flowering individuals. The average population size is between 12-13 plants. Additional sites occur on other federal lands (Forest Service), State, County, the city of Jacksonville, and private lands. The BLM has the majority of occurrences for this species.

Monitoring

District monitoring includes monitoring of rare plant sites done under small contracts, Challenge Cost Share partnerships, or monitoring with BLM Botany personnel. It also includes monitoring in project areas of buffers, and revisits and re-documentation of existing sites. Listed below is the number of sites/populations that were monitored in 2003.

Ashland Resource area	47
Grants Pass Resource area	20
Butte Falls Resource area	24
Glendale Resource area	8
Cascade Siskiyou Nat. Mon.	30
Medford District Total	**129 sites/populations**

Monitoring highlights:

Some of the more important monitoring for rare plants is summarized below.

Fritillaria gentneri **(Gentner's fritillary)**

There are currently three monitoring projects for this species: annual population counts at 40 sites across the Medford district and two demographic studies collecting detailed information on this listed endangered plant. Additionally, a small pollination was study was done under a challenge cost share partnership with Southern Oregon University.

For the revisited sites, 40 percent (16 sites) showed a net increase of 598 flowering plants from 2002--the most recorded ever. Two sites (5 percent) showed no change from 2002. Twelve sites (30 percent) haven't had any flowering plants for the last three years. Monitoring will continue at these sites in 2004. Ten sites had a net decrease of 195 flowering plants in all. For all the sites monitored in 2003, there were 1,259 flowering plants documented, an increase of 403 plants from 2002.

Annual demographic monitoring at the Jacksonville woodlands and at the Pickett Creek site was done in 2003. These two

Fritillaria gentneri (Gentner's fritillary) long term studies track individuals through various life stages gathering information on flowering, seed set, and dormancy. This information continues to be critical to understanding this plant. It is too soon to make conclusive statements, but initial data show large differences year to year in reproduction, dormancy, and recruitment, likely in response to environmental variables (i.e. precipitation, heat loads, etc.). Additional years are needed before statistically valid conclusions can be drawn.

The pollination study conducted at four *Fritillaria* sites documented pollinators by observation and sticky traps, flowering phenology. Pollen analog and nectar production studies were also done. Work was done both on both the red flowered *Fritillaria gentneri* and *F. recurva*, and to the 'green' flowered *F. affinis*. Pollen analogues (florescent powder) were placed in *Fritillarias* and captured insects were analyzed to see if pollen movement was occurring. Some of the highlights of the results were:

- many humming bird visits to the red *Fritillarias;*
- no visits to *F. affinis*;
- movement of pollen by hummingbirds from *F. gentneri* to *F. genteri;*
- no movement of pollen from *F. recurva* to *F. genteri* or *F. affinis* to *F. gentneri*;
- peak visitation times of pollinators based on flowering phenology.

More than 435 insects from six insect groups (diptera, hymenopterans, homopterans, arachnids, coleopteran, thysanopterans) were captured; none were moving pollen from plant to plant. The listed *Fritillaria gentneri* was found to have the highest concentrations of nectar sugars compared to the other two species. This basic information is important in understanding this listed plant. Some additional pollination work is proposed in 2004 under challenge cost share funding.

Lomatium cookii (Cook's desert-parsley)

This plant was listed as endangered in 2002. The monitoring of this plant at three locations in the Illinois valley has occurred for 10 years. The data from this monitoring is still being analyzed. Overall, it appears that slight population decreases occurred in 2003 at some of the sites, and impacts to small portions of the populations from unauthorized off-highway vehicles are still occurring at the French Flat ACEC site. The BLM is working with law enforcement and the USFWS to protect these sites. Because of these threats, we propose to continue monitoring in 2004.

Calochortus greenei (Green's mariposa lily)

As part of the grazing study within the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument, baseline monitoring in three areas in the Monument occurred in 2003, with 5 paired plots (fenced and unfenced) in each area. The 30 plots will be read each year for five years (starting in 2004) looking at demographic counts, flowering and seed set, and herbivory levels from insects and animals, including cattle. This information will help guide management decisions regarding grazing in the monument and provide good baseline information for this little studied species.

Perideridia erythrothiza (red root yampah)

Monitoring of this transplant study, paired with another study on the Roseburg district, showed that re-introductions of this rare plant were successful using tubers and seed collected from existing sites. There is one more year for this study evaluating the transplants from 1999. The site was also fenced in 2003 to reduce unwanted effects from cattle grazing.

Cypripedium fasciculatum **(clustered lady's slipper)**

The fifth year of monitoring 29 sites throughout the district for this rare orchid found a mixed trend. Plots are located in different areas on the district, and are found in late, mid and more "early" successional habitat. This represents a good sample of all the populations across the district. The monitoring looks at reproduction, recruitment, flowering cycles, age class distribution, herbivory, dormancy, and habitat condition. It is believed to be the only landscape level monitoring occurring for this species throughout its range in western North America.

Nine of the 29 sites (31 percent) show a decrease in plants (all age classes); 18 of the 29 (62 percent) show a stable trend (no real change); and two of the 29 sites (7 percent) show an increasing trend. Populations sizes at the different sites range from one to 78 plants. Monitoring will continue in 2004. Overall, the total counts (for all 29 sites) were down about 10 percent (from 859 plants in 2002 to 778 plants in 2003). This trend is likely due to climatic variation. Monitoring is scheduled to continue in 2004.

It is too early to make any conclusive statements on the demographic patterns, as this orchid can be very variable year to year. Funding in 2004 is proposed under challenge cost share funding.

Frasera umpquaensis **(Umpqua swertia)**

This state-listed plant was monitored for 10 years following a conservation strategy. Monitoring was set to conclude in 2002, but that year monitored populations burned in the Biscuit Fire. The monitored populations burned at varying intensities (severe, moderate and light) and presented an excellent opportunity to look at the fire effects since we had a large, multi-year data set prior to the fire. Monitoring is scheduled to occur for two years at this site under a joint fire science grant. The final report will not be prepared until after the second year of monitoring. In year one after the fire, in areas that experienced a severe stand replacing burn, the population was likely extirpated; no plants, or seedlings were found. The roots and soil was baked. In areas that burned at a moderate level, there was approximately a 40 percent decrease in the population, but plants did survive. In areas with a light burn that retained much of the duff, there was not a significant decrease in plants, the population survived essentially intact. This information will be important in the future in order to manage these populations with fire and meet other fuel reduction objectives for surrounding habitat.

ESA highlights:

This summer BLM wildlife, in conjunction with US Fish Wildlife Service and the US Forest Service, finished a five-year biological assessment for all BLM and FS activities for all listed species. The biological opinion concurred with 'Not Likely to Adversely Affect' determinations given required conservation measures for the four plants listed in the Rogue Sub-basin. The program covers all activities with the exception of rights-of-way and new road use permits, off-highway vehicle authorizations, land exchange and realty actions, and wildfires.

In November 2002, two former Bureau sensitive species were listed as Endangered under the Endangered Species Act; Cook's desert parsley (*Lomatium cookii*) and large-flowered wooly meadow-foam (*Limnanthes floccosa var. grandiflora)*. Cook's desert parsley (*Lomatium cookii*) occurs on Federal land in the Illinois Valley in moist meadows and had been proposed for listing for nearly a decade. Large-flowered wooly meadow-foam (*Limnanthes floccosa var. grandiflora),* a vernal pool species, occurs in the Agate Desert and on the Nature Conservancy land just north of Medford near the Table Rocks. BLM does have some suitable habitat for this species, mostly within the Butte Falls RA, but occurrences have not been documented Federal land.

In September 2003, we received the final recovery plan for *Fritillaria gentneri* (Gentner's fritillary) which outlines a plan to enhance populations by collecting bulbs, increasing them in a greenhouse setting, and transplanting into designated recovery zones. Funding is being sought in 2004 to begin implementation of this recovery plan.

We revisited 49 existing *Fritillaria gentneri* sites on the Medford District for the fifth year. This species continues to show fluctuations in population sizes annually (see above).

Data Management:

In 2003, 849 new records for Bureau Special Status Species were added to the district Rare Plant Database and GIS layer. There were also 250 updates of new information to existing records.

In 2003, 1,010 general survey and sighting records were created or updated in ISMS (interagency species management system) for Survey and Manage Species. In addition, approximately 2,000 general survey polygons were edited by the district botany data steward to comply with data standards developed by the Oregon State Office.

The district botany data steward served on the ISMS oversight committee in 2003, providing input and a field perspective on the development of ISMS II, which may be used in the future to house all Bureau Special Status and S&M data at the state level.

Native Plant Material Program:

The Medford District (all resource areas) produced 31,953 pounds[3] (gross yield) of native grass seed for 13 species and 52 sources to be used for project seeding treatments, restoration and wildfire rehabilitation. This effort also produced over 2,912 bales of weed-free native grass straw which is being used across the district for various projects.

Seven riparian hardwood, brush and forb species lots were grown for transplanting in project areas. Two upland forb species were grown and produced a small amount of seed this year. The majority of the funds have come from the Washington Office Native Plant Material competitive funding sources. Some funds have also come from Fire Rehabilitation, National Fire Program, O&C appropriated funds, and Title II funds. The district is anticipating additional funds from the Washington Office for 2004. Plant production is done in cooperation with the (USFS) Stone Nursery and with commercial grass growers under contract with the Medford District. The trend is to increase outsourcing with commercial growers. Currently 70 percent of the program is out-sourced to the private sector.

In 2003, 27,530 pounds of seed (produced from previous years) was sown on 2,933 acres in project areas. Seed was used on wildfire restoration, fuels reduction & habitat enhancement, weed treatment, oak woodland/shrub restoration, and engineering projects across the district.

Seeds of Success

In conjunction with the Royal Botanical Gardens--Kew, the Medford District collected and sent to England seed from 35 species/lots as part of the International Millennium Seed Bank project. This worldwide endeavor hopes to collect 10 percent of the world's flora for long term storage. Medford botany personnel collected 19 seed lots for the Roseburg and Salem districts to send to Kew as well. Medford also collected seed from an additional 33 species that can be used for the District in out-year restoration projects, or serve as source material to be grown-out under contract with commercial growers.

[1] The accomplished acres include surveys for vascular and non-vascular plants in which case some acres are double counted as they are independent surveys on the same acreage.

[2] Medford Rare Plant Access Database

[3] Some of the seed is still being cleaned, so an exact figure is forthcoming.

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS

Below is a summary of events and actions that occurred in Areas of Environmental Concern, (ACECs) and Research Natural Areas (RNAs) on the Medford District.

New Proposals:

No new ACECs were proposed for the Medford BLM in 2003. Work is in progress on the Bobby Creek and Whiskey Creek RNA EA/Management plans. Both of these ACEC plans should be completed in 2004.

Management Plans:

Several management plans (Round Top RNA, Oregon Gulch RNA, and Scotch Creek RNA) that were written in previous years are in draft and waiting to be finalized and signed. Both Oregon Gulch and Scotch Creek will be included in the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument EIS.

ACEC Surveys:

Systematic plant surveys and plant community mapping were done for the Silver Creek RNA in 2003, a total of 499 acres. This was the information needed to move forward to develop management plans for this area. This RNA also burned in the Biscuit fire in 2002 and the information served as baseline information following this stochastic event. A state-listed rare plant (*Umpqua swertia*) that has been monitored for a decade, was monitored under a Joint Fire Science grant to look at the effects of moderate and severe wildfire effects.

ACEC Actions:

At French Flat ACEC, fence and gates were reconstructed to keep OHVs out of the federally listed *Lomatium cookii* meadows. Law enforcement patrols were further increased to insure that unauthorized OHV impacts to this listed species are stopped. A conservation agreement was finalized with the USFWS to help protect the populations in the French Flat ACEC. Plant walks were also conducted at several ACEC's (see below).

Wildflower Walks

Various district botanists gave plant walks and talks across the district. Public wildflower hikes were given at Rough and Ready ACEC and at Table Rocks ACEC (in conjunction with the Nature Conservancy).

In addition, a successful environmental education event also took place at Table Rocks ACEC on National Public Lands Day in 2003. More than 80 participants of all ages from the community and approximately 15 volunteers from the BLM participated in this event. They spent the morning picking up trash, staining and sealing the fence, trimming brush along the trail, and installing and staining a new reader board. During the afternoon, community participants enjoyed education stations including botany, anthropology, fire ecology, and wildlife biology taught by various district employees. Thomas Doty, local storyteller and poet, entertained the group with stories.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

The cultural resources program provides environmental history to Resource Areas when requested to do so for watershed analyses. This information addresses the role of human beings in the evolution of the landscape. It is synthesized from a variety of sources including reports, maps, photos and historic documents, and several overview studies done on this subject in past years. The program continues to solicit tribal input for important projects and keeps an updated list of interested tribes. Public outreach and education goals were addressed through various means including:

- a continuing the assistance agreement with Southern Oregon University for the archeological field school which teaches students the proper archeological field methods;
- the development of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Rogue Stewards for monitoring selected archeological sites;
- the participation of District personnel in a number of public presentations.

One of the perennial problems facing cultural resource managers is the vandalism of easily accessed archaeological sites. By moving and removing artifacts, vandals rob the public of information about the history of the area.

RURAL INTERFACE AREAS

The objective of the resource management plan for the rural interface areas is to consider the interests of adjacent and nearby rural residential land owners during analysis, planning and monitoring activities occurring within managed rural interface areas. These interests include personal health and safety, improvements to property, and quality of life.

The Bureau of Land Management manages rural interface areas encompassing approximately 136,000 acres located throughout the Medford District within one-quarter mile of private land zoned for 1-5 acre or 5-20 acre lots.

In the past year, the BLM has worked with numerous local individuals and groups such as watershed councils, fire protection groups, area citizen groups, and environmental coalitions to mitigate many features of land management that are in close proximity to private residences.

Gates and other barricades are used to stop unauthorized use of public roads and dust abatement measures to mitigate impacts to neighbors. The BLM is also attempting to reduce fuels hazards on public lands adjacent to private properties.

SOCIOECONOMIC

The Medford District has been successful in contributing to local, state, national and international economies through monetary payments, sustainable use of BLM-managed lands and resources, and use of innovative contracting and other implementation strategies.

The District provides employment opportunities for local companies, contractors and individuals through a wide variety of contractual opportunities and through the harvesting of forest products. These opportunities include the sale of commercial timber; silvicultural treatment projects such as thinning, planting trees; repair of storm damaged roads; and the collection of Special Forest Products including ferns mushrooms, and firewood. The District also provides developed and undeveloped recreational facilities (such as campgrounds, hiking trails, boat ramps, and wildlife viewing facilities) that bring visitors to the area, providing indirect benefits to tourism-related businesses.

Monetary Payments

The Bureau of Land Management contributes financially to the local economy in a variety of ways. One of these ways is through financial payments. They include: Payments in Lieu of Taxes and O&C Payments. Payments of each type were made in FY 2003 as directed in current legislation. The specific amounts paid to the counties under each revenue sharing program in FY 2003 are displayed in the table on page 23. A description of each type of payment program is described below.

Payments in Lieu of Taxes

Payments in Lieu of Taxes (or PILT) are Federal payments made annually to local governments that help offset losses in property taxes due to nontaxable Federal lands within their boundaries. The key law that implements the payments is Public Law 94-565, dated October 20, 1976. This law was rewritten and amended by Public Law 97-258 on September 13, 1982 and codified in Chapter 69, Title 31 of the United States Code. The law recognizes that the inability of local governments to collect property taxes on Federally owned land can create a financial impact.

PILT payments help local governments carry out such vital services as firefighting and police protection, construction of public schools and roads, and search-and-rescue operations. These payments are one of the ways that the Federal government can fulfill its role of being a good neighbor to local communities. This is an especially important role for the BLM which manages more public land than any other Federal agency.

Payments to Counties

Payments are currently made to counties under “The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.” The purpose of the act is "To restore stability and predictability to the annual payments made to States and counties containing National Forest System lands and public domain lands managed by the BLM for use by the counties for the benefit of public schools, roads and other purposes." The public domain lands managed by the BLM in western Oregon refers only to Oregon and California Revested Grantlands (O&C) and Coos Bay Wagon Road Lands (CBWR), not public domain (PD) lands. The O&C lands consist of approximately 2.5 million acres of federally owned forest lands in 18 western Oregon counties including approximately 74,500 acres of Coos Bay Wagon Road Lands in the Coos Bay and Roseburg BLM Districts.

Fiscal Year 2003 was the third year that payments were made to western Oregon counties under “the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000” (P.L. 106-393). Counties made elections to receive the standard O&C payment as calculated under the Act of August 28, 1937 or the Act of May 24, 1939, or the calculated full payment amount as determined under P.L. 106-393. All counties in the Medford District elected to receive payments under the new legislation. Beginning in Fiscal Year 2001 and continuing through 2006 payments are to be made based on historic O&C payments to the counties. The table on page **22** displays the statewide payments made under each Title of P.L. 106-393 as well as the grand total and the table on page **23** displays the Title II payments for this District. Actual payments for 2003 were made October 31, 2003.

Title I payments are made to the eligible counties based on the three highest payments to each county between the years 1986 and 1999. These payments may be used by the counties in the manner as previous 50-percent and “safety net” payments.

Title II payments are reserved by the counties in a special account in the Treasury of the United States for funding projects providing protection, restoration and enhancement of fish and wildlife habitat, and other natural resource objectives as outlined in P.L. 106-3983. BLM is directed to obligate these funds for projects selected by local Resource Advisory Committees and approved by the Secretary of Interior or her designee.

Title III payments are made to the counties for uses authorized in P.L. 106-393. These include: 1) search, rescue and emergency services on Federal land, 2) community service work camps, 3) easement purchases, 4) forest-related educational opportunities, 5) fire prevention and county planning, and 6) community forestry.

FY2003 Secure Rural Schools Payments to Counties (Payments were made October 31, 2003)

County	Title I Paid to County	Title III Paid to County	Total Paid to County	Title II Retained By BLM	Grand Total
Benton	$2,649,253.09	$233,757.62	$2,883,010.71	$233,757.62	$3,116,768.33
Clackamas	$5,232,510.54	$692,538.16	$5,925,048.70	$230,846.05	$6,155,894.75
Columbia	$1,942,157.06	$229,631.51	$2,171,788.57	$113,102.09	$2,284,890.66
Coos	$5,562,488.68	$785,292.52	$6,347,781.20	$196,323.13	$6,544,104.33
Coos (CBWR)	$696,383.35	$15,975.85	$712,359.20	$106,915.32	$819,274.52
Curry	$3,441,200.62	$364,362.42	$3,805,563.04	$242,908.28	$4,048,471.32
Douglas	$23,617,007.03	$1,041,926.78	$24,658,933.81	$3,125,780.34	$27,784,714.15
Douglas (CBWR)	$125,890.06	$5,553.97	$131,444.03	$16,661.92	$148,105.95
Jackson	$14,773,592.81	$1,303,552.31	$16,077,145.12	$1,303,552.31	$17,380,697.43
Josephine	$11,388,959.88	$1,004,908.22	$12,393,868.10	$1,004,908.22	$13,398,776.32
Klamath	$2,206,139.58	$77,863.75	$2,284,003.33	$311,455.00	$2,595,458.33
Lane	$14,396,474.94	$1,295,682.74	$15,692,157.68	$1,244,871.66	$16,937,029.34
Lincoln	$339,406.09	$19,969.06	$359,375.15	$39,926.13	$399,301.28
Linn	$2,488,977.98	$219,615.71	$2,708,593.69	$219,615.71	$2,928,209.40
Marion	$1,376,480.25	$194,326.62	$1,570,806.87	$48,581.66	$1,619,388.53
Multnomah	$1,027,646.22	$176,349.33	$1,203,995.55	$5,000.00	$1,208,995.55
Polk	$2,036,436.53	$323,434.04	$2,359,870.57	$35,937.12	$2,395,807.69
Tillamook	$527,965.03	$30,746.20	$558,711.23	$62,424.10	$621,135.33
Washington	$593,960.65	$78,612.44	$672,573.09	$26,204.15	$698,777.24
Yamhill	$678,812.18	$116,196.67	$795,008.85	$3,593.71	$798,602.56
Totals	**$95,101,742.57**	**$8,210,295.92**	**$103,312,038.49**	**$8,572,364.52**	**$111,884,403.01**
				CBWR	**$967,380.47**
				O&C	**$110,917,022.54**
					$111,884,403.01

Title II Medford District RAC (Payments were made October 31, 2003)

County	Payment
Curry	$41,294.41
Douglas	406,351.44
Douglas (CBWR)	2,166.05
Jackson	1,290,386.43
Josephine	1,004,908.22
Klamath	311,455.00
Total	$3,056,561.55

Payments In Lieu of Taxes, Oregon, 2003

County	Payment	Total Acres
Baker County	$326,877.00	1,020,753
Benton County	$3,696.00	20,327
Clackamas County	$94,845.00	521,598
Clatsop County	$488.00	359
Columbia County	$0.00	1
Coos County	$12,295.00	67,619
Crook County	$170,812.00	939,376
Curry County	$107,412.00	590,707
Deschutes County	$260,746.00	1,433,965
Douglas County	$172,317.00	947,655
Gilliam County	$45,846.00	34,616
Grant County	$319,996.00	1,751,354
Harney County	$561,467.00	4,456,024
Hood River County	$37,417.00	205,774
Jackson County	$83,730.00	460,472
Jefferson County	$54,021.00	297,088
Josephine County	$63,659.00	350,091
Klamath County	$392,756.00	2,159,957
Lake County	$561,467.00	3,703,244
Lane County	$248,931.00	1,368,994
Lincoln County	$33,297.00	183,116
Linn County	$86,558.00	476,022
Malheur County	$1,379,451.00	4,302,798
Marion County	$37,151.00	204,312
Morrow County	$27,268.00	149,960
Multnomah County	$13,795.00	75,865
Polk County	$0.00	435
Sherman County	$72,071.00	53,672
Tillamook County	$16,904.00	92,962
Umatilla County	$119,409.00	418,790
Union County	$389,426.00	624,346
Wallowa County	$212,372.00	1,167,805
Wasco County	$40,188.00	221,016
Washington County	$3,548.00	2,608
Wheeler County	$55,365.00	301,926
Yamhill County	$4,689.00	25,790
Total	$6,010,270.00	28,631,397

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Executive Order 12898 of February 11, 1994, "Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations" directs all federal agencies to "...make achieving environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing ...disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of it's programs, policies and activities."

New projects with possible effects on minority populations and/or low-income populations will incorporate an analysis of Environmental Justice impacts to ensure any disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects are identified, and reduced to acceptable levels if possible.

RECREATION

The Medford District's Recreation Management program continues to be one of the most diverse in the state. Developed sites include campgrounds at Hyatt Lake, Tucker Flat, Elderberry Flat and Skull Creek. Day use sites are maintained at Gold Nugget, Elderberry Flat, Hyatt Lake, and along the Recreation Section of the Rogue River. Interpretive trails and sites are maintained at Eight Dollar Mountain, Table Rocks, Hyatt Lake, Gold Nugget, Rand Administrative Site, and three National Register Sites—the Whisky Creek Cabin, the Rogue River Ranch, and the Smullin Visitor Center at Rand on the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River. A hang gliding site is maintained at Woodrat Mountain near Ruch. A winter tubing hill and a system of cross-country skiing and snowmobile trails are maintained near Hyatt Lake.

More people than ever before were taken on guided interpretive hikes on the Table Rocks in 2003. More than 3,200 school children and 2,000 adults participated in this ever popular activity.

In addition, two nationally designated trails—he Rogue River National Recreation Trail and the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail—are maintained.

Forty-seven miles of the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River are managed by the district, with BLM administering both the commercial and private permits. Rafting, boat and bank fishing, motorized tour boat travel, hiking on river trails, and all other manner of water related activities continue to flourish and grow.

For users who enjoy driving for pleasure, three Back Country Byways and three designated Off-Highway Vehicle areas are managed. For non-motorized cyclists, the 74-mile Glendale-to-Powers Bicycle Recreation Area is maintained.

The 5,867-acre Soda Mountain Wilderness Study Area (WSA) as well as the developments at Hyatt Lake are now encompassed by the newly established Cascade Siskiyou National Monument. The Soda Mountain WSA continues to be managed under the non-impairment criteria of the Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review, pending Congressional action.

Winter recreation use continues to increase with over 20 miles of cross-country ski trails and sixty miles of snowmobile trails maintained.

Dispersed use throughout the district includes hunting, fishing, camping, driving for pleasure, horseback riding, hang gliding, caving, shooting, mountain biking, water play, sightseeing, hiking, rockhounding, geocaching, and mushroom and berry gathering. The types of uses increase every year as does the amount of use. As the outdoor recreation equipment industry continues to develop newer and more effective equipment, new unanticipated recreation activities emerge.

In addition to these activities, the district issues approximately 150 Special Recreation Permits for commercial, group events and competitive activities. The majority of these permits are issued to commercial outfitters and guides on the Rogue River. Additional permits are issued for coonhound trials, paintball wars, archery events, hunting guides, equestrian events, bicycle events, automobile road races, and OHV events.

FOREST MANAGEMENT AND TIMBER RESOURCES

The Medford District manages approximately 859,096 acres of land located in Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Curry, and Coos counties. Under the Northwest Forest Plan, approximately 191,000 acres (or 22 percent of the Medford District land base) are available for timber production. The Northwest Forest Plan and the Medford District Resource Management Plan provide for a sustainable timber harvest (known as the Allowable Sale Quantity) of 57.1 MMBF (million board feet) annually from Medford District administered public lands. The district had five public auctions in fiscal year 2003, for a total volume of 49,710 MBF. Additionally, volume from negotiated sales and modification volume from existing sales brought the total volume to 51,379 MBF for the fiscal year.

A number of harvest methods are employed in the Medford District. These consist of regeneration harvest, density management, selective harvest, commercial thinning, and salvage.

Land Use Allocation	Offered FY 2003		Total 1995-2003 (mbf)
	MBF	CCF	
AMA	18,215	30,717	109,516
North GFMA	13,208	22,227	167,875
South GFMA	13,764	23,429	103,805
Connectivity	2,603	4,074	11,753
Misc Volume	1,669	2,837	4,844
Total Volume offered from ASQ lands	**49,459**	**83,284**	**396,625**
LSR Volume	1,920	3,456	5,641
Riparian Reserve volume	0	0	5,392
Hardwood volume	0	0	482
Total District Volume	**51,379**	**86,740**	**408,140**
District FY Target Volume	**57,075**	**97,000**	**426,703**

- Data shown is for all “Offered” timber sales, which included advertised and negotiated sales with associated modifications.
- Misc. volume includes special forest products sold as sawtimber.

Harvest Land Base (HLB)—The following lands are available for harvest under the District RMP Land Use Allocations (LUA), General Forest Management Area (GFMA), Connectivity/Diversity Blocks, Adaptive Management Areas (AMA), and within the designated Key Watersheds which overlay the other LUAs. The harvest land base is composed of the net available acres of suitable commercial forest land on which the ASQ calculation, using the TRIM-PLUS model, is based. Volume from the harvest land base is called "chargeable volume" as it is charged towards or against (a credit) the ASQ level declared in the RMP. The GFMA and Connectivity/Diversity Blocks equate to the Northwest Forest Plan (NFP) Matrix land use allocation.

1) Summary of Volume Sold

Sold ASQ/Non ASQ Volume	FY95-98	FY99-03	FY95-03 Total	FY95-03 Declared ASQ
ASQ Volume—Harvest Land Base	199.5	165.6	365.1	513.1
Non ASQ Volume--Reserves	8.0	.386	8.4	n/a
Total	**207.5**	**165.9**	**373.5**	**n/a**

Sold Unawarded (as of 09/30/03) ASQ/Non ASQ Volume	FY95-98	FY99-03	FY95-03 Total
ASQ Volume—Harvest Land Base	16.4	46.2	62.6
Non ASQ Volume--Reserves	2.6	0	2.6
Total	**19.0**	**46.2**	**65.2**

2) Volume and Acres Sold by Allocations

ASQ Volume—(Harvest Land Base)	FY95-98	FY99-03	FY95-03 Total	Decadal Projection
Matrix	132.3	159.2	291.5	492.0
AMA	51.1	6.0	57.1	171.0

ASQ Acres--(Harvest Land Base)	FY95-98	FY99-03	FY95-03 Total	Decadal Projection
Matrix	17,089	14,053	31,142	23,299
AMA	9,653	2,719	12,372	6,686

Key Watershed ASQ Volume—(Harvest Land Base)	FY95-98	FY99-03	FY95-03 Total	Decadal Projection
Key Watersheds	3.8	26.7	30.5	90.0

3) Sales Sold by Harvest Types

ASQ Volume—(Harvest Land Base)	FY95-98	FY99-03	FY95-03 Total	Decadal Projection
Regeneration Harvest	57.4	31.0	88.4	344.0
Commercial Thinning & Density Management	118.8	96.4	215.2	222.5
Other	23.3	18.4	41.7	4.3
Total	**199.5**	**145.8**	**345.3**	**570.8**

ASQ Acres--(Harvest Land Base)	FY95-98	FY99-03	FY95-03 Total	Decadal Projection
Regeneration Harvest	3,527	1,319	4,846	11,277
Commercial Thinning & Density Management	21,864	14,842	36,706	18,584
Other	573	1,932	2,505	548
Total	**25,964**	**18,093**	**44,057**	**29,985**

Reserve Acres	FY95-98	FY99-03	FY95-03 Total
Late-Successional Reserves	465	3	468
Riparian Reserves	577	86	663
Total	**1,042**	**89**	**1,131**

SPECIAL FOREST PRODUCTS

The Medford District sold a wide variety of products under the Special Forest Products Program in FY 2003. These sales included mushrooms, boughs, Christmas trees, wood burls, plant transplants, seed and seed cones, edibles and medicinals, floral greenery, and wood products such as poles or fence posts.

The record of decision does not have any commitments for the sale of special forest products. The following table shows the special forest product sales for fiscal year 2003 on the Medford District.

Product	No. of Contracts	Quantity	Sold Value
Boughs-Coniferous	61	166,966 lbs	$1,686
Burls & Miscellaneous	12	31,940 lbs	6,651
Christmas Trees	1,728	2,604 trees	4,555
Ornamentals	0	0 items	0
Edibles & Medicinals	4	6,700 lbs	30
Floral & Greenery	76	77,890 lbs	4,245
Mosses-Bryophytes	0	0 items	0
Mushrooms-Fungi	251	29,110 lbs	1,608
Seed & Seed Cones	2	40 lbs	172
Transplants	1	1 item	8
Wood Products	488	1,069,414 cu ft	22,847
Total	**2,623**		**$41,802**

ENERGY AND MINERALS

In 2003, the Medford District had approximately 20 active mining notices. This was a decrease of approximately 80 percent from 2002 due to the 3809 financial guarantee requirement for existing operations being implemented. In 2003, 90 site inspections were completed and the District removed seven occupancies that were determined not to be reasonably incident to mining. The District processed two, 3809 mining actions in FY 2003 which was a 50 percent decrease from FY 2002. This decrease was attributed to the passage of new regulations early in the 2001 calendar year. We initiated removal of one abandoned mine environmental hazard site in FY 2003. This site is discharging acid mine water.

The district continues to use BLM-managed rock quarries as resources to sell mineral materials to the public and for BLM management activities. BLM's use includes timber sale road surfacing, and large rocks for fish weir projects and culvert replacement. There were a total of 109 permits for 89,467 cubic yards of material. Material sales were made to business and private citizens in FY 2003. One material trespass was initiated and settled. Eleven free use permits were issued, the majority of which went to the BLM road crew. No quarries were opened or closed.

LAND TENURE ADJUSTMENTS

No land tenure adjustments have occurred within the District in 2003.

ACCESS AND RIGHTS OF WAY

Because public and private lands are intermingled within the district boundary, each owner must cross the lands of the other in order to gain access to their lands and resources such as timber. Throughout most of the district this has been accomplished through reciprocal rights-of-way agreements with neighboring private landowners. The individual agreements and associated permits (a total of 103 on the district) are subject to the regulations which were in effect when they were executed or assigned. Additional rights-of-way have been granted for projects such as driveway construction, residence utility lines, domestic and irrigation water pipelines, and legal ingress and egress.

TRANSPORTATION AND ROADS

During 2003, the District continued developing transportation management objectives for all roads controlled by the Bureau. The process will continue through 2004. Transportation management objectives have been used to support watershed analyses and to determine candidate roads for the decommissioning process. Road inventories, watershed analyses and individual timber sale projects identified some roads and associated drainage features that posed a risk to aquatic or other resource values. Those activities identified included:

- surfacing dirt roads
- replacing deteriorated culverts
- replacing log fill culverts
- replacing undersized culverts in perennial streams to meet 100-year flood events

Other efforts were made to reduce overall road miles by closure or elimination of roads.

The district decommissioned approximately 15 miles of road through timber sale projects. Another 36 miles of road were closed by gates or barricades. Since the Resource Management Plan was initiated, a cumulative total of approximately 392 miles of roads have been closed and 158 miles have been decommissioned.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

The district hazardous materials coordinator participated in a number of actions involving investigations and/or cleanup of reported hazardous waste sites, employee and public awareness training, and recycling:

- Inspected all district facilities with the Safety Manager for safety and environmental compliance in preparation for the follow-up Compliance Assessment for Safety Health and the Environment scheduled for May 2004.
- Completed six environmental site assessments for easement acquisitions and land exchanges.
- Activated and administered the emergency response contract for six hazardous waste incidents.
- Completed the Removal Site Investigation Report and Action Memorandum for the Almeda Mine; completed two of the three recommended removal actions.
- Provided feedback and field support for EPA contractor-led site investigation in addressing environmental hazards at the Braden Mine.
- Recovered refrigerant and waste oils while disposing of 60 junk appliances from illegal dumping on public lands.
- Performed preliminary investigations and carried out appropriate actions on 40 reported hazmat incidents.
- Organized Grants Pass Resource Area office clean up day while promoting the district waste minimization plan.
- Recycled 138 junk tires recovered from illegal dumps on public lands.
- Provided hazmat awareness training for new employees, Eagle Scouts, Crater High School, and Rogue River Middle School students.

WILDFIRE AND FUELS MANAGEMENT

The 2003 fire season began on June 6. Apprehension prevailed as the large burned acreage of the 2002 season remained fresh in the minds of residents and fire officials alike. Wildland fire potential indicators predicted above normal activity for large fires throughout the Pacific Northwest. By the first of April, snowpack levels were below normal. March through mid-May was much wetter then normal at lower elevations, but warm temperatures and very dry weather prevailed after the latter half of May.

With the dry conditions, fire danger indices started out at high levels and reached near record levels by early June. The need to prepare for an above normal fire season was recognized early. Initial attack fire suppression resources were in place and fully staffed ahead of schedule. U.S. Forest Service, Oregon Department of Forestry, and the BLM jointly developed plans to provide additional resources for extended attack and large fire suppression. All three agencies requested and received additional funding to hire local contractor firefighting resources to meet the anticipated needs. These resources included engines, 20-person fire crews, and helicopters. Although fire danger remained above average throughout the season, fire losses were held to a minimum, as the public kept vigilant and firefighters aggressively fought to keep fires small.

Oregon Department of Forestry provides fire protection and wildland fire suppression for the Medford District through a cost reimbursable contract. For the 2003 fire season the District experienced 54 wildfires which burned a total of 199 acres. In comparison, 2002 saw 194 fires which burned 33,685 acres. Of the 54 fires, 37 were lightning caused which burned 35 acres. Human fire starts totaled 17 and burned 169 acres. The percent of fires 10 acres or less was 96 percent.

Since the early 1990's the U.S. Forest Service, Oregon Department of Forestry, and the BLM in Southwestern Oregon have worked cooperatively in conducted joint fire training, preplanning mutual aid in attacking fires, and in fire prevention. An interagency coordination and command working team, Southwestern Oregon Coordination Group, meets throughout the year to jointly find solutions for fire related issues and ways to increase efficiencies.

Medford District's Fuels Management Program

The Medford District has been a leader in Southwest Oregon in aggressive fuels management since 1996 with the implementation of landscape scale projects focused on a primary goal of fire hazard reduction. Since then, many acres of hazardous fuels reduction have been accomplished on BLM lands primarily in the wildland-urban interface. In 2003, 6,956 acres were treated with prescribed fire and 13,749 acres were treated by hand or mechanical methods. The 2003 total treatment acres of 20,705 is slightly higher then the 2002 total of 19,445 acres.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Medford District has three full time BLM Law Enforcement Rangers and, through a law enforcement agreement with the counties, the services of 3.5 deputy sheriffs from both Jackson and Josephine Counties. Law enforcement efforts on the Medford District for fiscal year 2003 included the following:

- Responding to and investigating natural resource crimes throughout the District_
- Investigating occupancy trespass cases, mining occupancy and other trespasses
- Investigating drug/narcotic offenses (marijuana and methamphetamine)
- Coordinating Law Enforcement actions with other federal, state and local departments
- Investigating crimes against federal employees and federal property

Cases and incidents have resulted in written warnings, citations, physical arrests and the referral of cases to other agencies. Twenty-two felonies and thirty-four misdemeanors were charged. The District had a total resource/property value loss of $75,354. We had several forest protests at the district office complex and in the field. We had an increase of Law Enforcement incidents within the Cascade/Siskiyou National Monument. Incidents included illegal off-road vehicle use, resource damage, dumping, large drug/alcohol parties, fire violations, drug production, hunting violations, transient camps and resource theft.

The Medford District Law Enforcement Office entered 1,258 incidents into the BLM LAWNET System in 2003. We expect to enter 1,300 incidents in 2004, at current staffing level.

One of the continuing problems of law enforcement is illegal off-road vehicle use resulting in resource damage.

RANGELAND MANAGEMENT

The Medford District rangeland program administers grazing leases for 59 livestock operators on 51 active allotments and 42 allotments vacant. These grazing allotments include approximately 352,313 acres of the Medford District's 863,095 total acres. In addition to public lands, grazing authorizations may include several thousand acres leased from private timber company holdings.

Grazing is one of the many uses of the public lands. The primary goal of the grazing program is to provide livestock forage while maintaining or improving upland range conditions and riparian areas. To ensure that these lands are properly managed, the Bureau conducts monitoring studies to help the manager determine if resource objectives are being met.

A portion of the grazing fees and operational funding is spent each year to maintain or complete rangeland improvement projects. These projects are designed to benefit wildlife, fisheries, and watershed resources while improving conditions for livestock grazing. The Medford District has conducted the long-running Jenny Creek Riparian Enhancement Project each year since 1988 as part of the rangeland program. These projects have resulted in numerous improvements, enhanced riparian systems and have built strong partnerships with livestock operators, friends, neighbors, and other organizations.

Livestock grazing regulations were revised in 1995 with the implementation of Rangeland Reform and will be revised again in 2004. Standards and Guidelines for Rangeland Health were completed for the states of Oregon and Washington in 1997. The fundamental characteristics of rangeland health combine physical function and biological health with elements of law relating to water quality, and plant and animal populations and communities. Assessments of rangeland health are underway and will be completed on grazing allotments over a ten year period.

New Bureau policy requires that lease renewal applications be filed four months prior to expiration of the existing lease. This will allow time for the authorized officer to review the application and ensure appropriate documentation in compliance with the National Environmental Protection Act.

An update of the Medford District Rangeland Program Summary was completed in the year 2001 and summarizes changes which have occurred since the last update. Copies of this document are available by contacting our office. All future updates will be reported annually in this report, the Medford District Annual Program Summary.

Fiscal Year 2003 Accomplishments

Lease Renewals:

Grazing lease renewals now require a review of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements prior to renewal for a new ten year term. Most grazing leases within the Ashland Area require renewal prior to 2006, while the majority of the Butte Falls leases would require renewal prior to year 2004. Lease renewals may be completed along with Rangeland Health Assessments to more efficiently utilize staff. This strategy also reduces heavy lease renewal workloads in some years.

Rangeland Health Assessments completed in 2003:

Ashland Field Office:

Antelope Road Allotment	#10132	200 acres
Brownsboro Allotment	#10133	80 acres
Canal Allotment	#10136	440 acres
Yankee Reservoir Allotment	#10134	120 acres

Butte Falls Field Office:

Bull Run Allotment	#10023	40 acres
Derby Road Sawmill Allotment	#10029	521 acres
Lick Creek Allotment	#10015	200 acres
Moser Mountain Allotment	#10041	40 acres
Neil-Tarbell Allotment	#10008	529 acres
North Sams Valley Allotment	#10009	120 acres
Section 7 Allotment	#10022	378 acres
Section 9 Allotment	#10021	343 acres
Sugarloaf Allotment	#10019	1,340 acres
Upper Table Rock Allotment	#10012	560 acres
Meadows	#10007	1,719 acres
Crowfoot	#10038	6,934 acres
Vestal Butte	#10035	1,715 acres

Allotments Reviewed in 2003 but being processed in 2004

Stiehl Allotment	#10026	175 acres
West Derby	#10034	1,120 acres
Eagle Point-Canal	#10020	465 acres

Allotment Monitoring:

Collected utilization, trend, and riparian studies on approximately 20 high priority allotments.

Rangeland Improvements:

September 20, 2003, was the sixteenth annual Jenny Creek Riparian Volunteer project. This year the project was co-sponsored as part of the National Public Lands Day celebration. Federal agency participants, including BLM, have implemented this national effort to accomplish on-the-ground work while building strong public/private relationships dedicated to caring for our public lands. A total of 28 volunteers participated in the project this year.

Projects Completed:

Ashland Field Office (includes Jenny Creek Riparian Volunteer Projects):

- Boy Scout Spring Enclosure Reconstruction
- Griffin Pass Spring Enclosure Reconstruction
- Soda Mountain Elk Enclosure Fence Repair
- Burnt Creek Spring Enclosure Construction
- Conde Creek Old Wire Removal
- Annual Maintenance On 14 Other Enclosures
- 2.5 Miles of Blown-Down Tree Removal on Deadwood Allotment
- Crushed Gate Replacement on Deadwood Allotment
- 1.5 Miles of Temp. Electric Fence Installation To Control Trespass on Grizzly Allotment

Butte Falls Field Office:

- 100 acres of native grass reseeding was done to prevent yellowstar thistle infestations in the Elk Creek Reservoir area.
- A spring enclosure was constructed and maintenance performed on three riparian enclosures.

Fiscal Year 2004 Planned Work:

Although there are important lease renewal workloads awaiting production, budget shortfalls in several departments in 2004 are having substantial impact on many programs. Broad-based program reprioritization is being done to cope with budget difficulties resulting in attention focused on areas of special concern. Efforts will continue on botanical clearance surveys, Rangeland Health Assessments, Standards and Guidelines Reviews, NEPA and lease renewals planned in 2004.

Rangeland Health Assessments:

Ashland Field Office:

If funding becomes available in the budget for botanical clearances, the following allotments may be scheduled for evaluations and lease renewal.

Heppsie	#00126	4,076 acres
North Cove Creek	#10148	281 acres
Poole Hille	#20113	1,760 acres
Conde Creek	#20117	5,346 acres

Rangeland Health and Standards and Guidelines Assessments continue on allotments within the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument through the Livestock Impact Study. Leases within the CSNM may be renewed pending the results of the Livestock Impact Study (approx. 9 allotments).

Butte Falls Field Office:

If funding becomes available in the budget for botanical clearances, the following allotments may be scheduled for evaluations and lease renewal.

Stiehl Allotment	#10026	175 acres
West Derby	#10034	1,120 acres
Eagle Point-Canal	#10020	465 acres
Flat Creek	#10002	14,499 acres
Summit Prairie	#10031	25,693 acres

Lease renewals usually are completed at the same time as the Rangeland Health Assessments are.

The US Army Corps of Engineers has proposed the development of a Coordinated Resource Management Plan (CRMP) near the proposed Elk Creek Dam. Allotments affected would include the Lost Creek and Flat Creek allotments. This proposal is still being considered.

CADASTRAL SURVEY

Fiscal year 2003 was once again a very busy year for the Medford District cadastral survey organization. Cadastral survey crews completed six projects and continued work on two additional projects as fiscal year 2003 drew to a close. A total of 52 miles of line were surveyed or resurveyed, 30 miles of federal boundaries were marked and blazed, and 75 survey monuments were established or reestablished. Medford cadastral survey utilized survey-grade global positioning systems (GPS) to establish control points on the projects that it completed, as well as using GPS to conduct surveys where practical. Cadastral survey crews also conducted site surveys at three different locations, Almeda Mine, Conde Creek, and Sucker Creek, at the request of the resource areas or divisions, and provided detailed topographic maps of the sites to the respective resource areas/divisions.

Cadastral survey serves as the district lead for all levels of GPS work, both resource grade and survey grade GPS. Our staff also visited 51 corner locations at the request of the State Office GCDB (Geographic Coordinate Data Base) staff, and collected GPS control data at 18 of these corners for the GCDB processes.

Cadastral survey also responded to numerous questions and inquiries from private landowners, timber companies, private land surveyors, and district personnel regarding surveying procedures, status of ongoing surveys, and information about official plats and field notes.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Employees of the Medford District participated in many outreach programs in FY 2003. Of these, the Outreach and Public Education Network (OPEN) of the district was responsible for the exhibits for seven events. More than 120 district employees and other volunteers worked for more than 2,200 hours on the following events:

- Sportsmen's Show*
- Roxy Ann Gem & Mineral Show
- Pear Blossom Festival*
- Merlin Parade (Rogue River Program)
- Safe Kids Day*
- 11th Annual Rogue River Cleanup
- Free Fishing Day
- Jackson County Fair*
- Josephine County Fair*
- CAST Day (free fishing day for physically challenged young people)
- State Fair, Salem
  - Provided staff for the BLM State Office exhibit*
  - Provided an exhibit on Urban/Wildland Interface to "Keep Oregon Green" for their State Fair exhibit*
- National Public Lands Day
  - 4th Annual Grayback Mountain Trail
  - 17th Annual Jenny Creek
- Harvest Fair*

- Hoover School Events (as a government partner)
    - Science Fair Judges
    - Christmas Tree Cutting
    - Other events

In addition, employees

- Led Table Rocks Nature Hikes
- Staffed McGregor Park Visitor Center near Lost Creek Lake
- Co-sponsored the "Tour de Fronds," a 70-mile bicycle ride
- Constructed and monitored bat boxes at 16 sites with the help of volunteers
- Provided outdoor education talks and field trips for numerous schools throughout the region
- Provided materials for use by local home school network
- Prepared feature articles for our regular column "Nature and Nurture" in Rogue Valley Parent magazine*

* OPEN Committee responsible for exhibits for these events and for preparing the articles for our Rogue Valley Parent magazine column.

Two volunteers help clear out berryvines on the Box O Ranch during a Public Lands Day project.

COORDINATION AND CONSULTATION

Consultation and coordination with all levels of government have been ongoing and are a standard practice in the Medford District. On the Federal level, the District consults with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service on matters relating to Federally listed threatened or endangered species. The District coordinates its activities with the U.S. Forest Service on matters pertaining to the Applegate Adaptive Management Area and also through development of interagency watershed analyses. State level consultation and coordination occurs with the State Historic Preservation Office for Section 106 compliance, and with Oregon Department of Forestry, and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. On a local level, the district consults with Native American tribal organizations in Jackson and Josephine County.

Resource Advisory Committees have been meeting and selecting projects to fund and complete. The following projects were selected and funded at the listed level:

Project Name	Project Number	County	RAC Recommend/ Approve Funding
R. River Recreation & Trail Maint.	110-03	Curry	$17,006
Mule Creek Roadside Brushing	118-03	Curry	$19,600
Small Diameter Removal	118-03-05	Douglas	$38,000
Noxious Weed Removal	118-3-06	Douglas	$32,000
Glendale Visitor Center	118-03-04	Douglas	$27,500
West Fork & Cow Creek Road Renovation	118-03-10	Douglas	$120,000
Panther Creek Road Renovation	118-03-07	Douglas	$72,000
Pump Chance Maint.	118-03-08	Douglas	$14,850
Martin Ditch & Fish Wheel	118-03-31	Douglas	$22,610
Roadside Brushing	118-03-09	Douglas	$40,000
Cow Creek Byway Project	118-03-02	Douglas	$36,740
Boaz Forest Health	116-03-03	Jackson	$60,000
Road Maintenance	116-03-05	Jackson	$34,350
Upper Table Rock Parking Lot	115-03-03	Jackson	$90,000
Upper & Lower Table Rock Trail	115-03-04	Jackson	$60,000
Canyon Creek Road Repair	115-03-02	Jackson	$45,000
Medford District Weed Control	115-03-06	Jackson	$70,500
Jenny Creek Noxious Weed Treatment	116-03-06	Jackson	$30,934
Soda Mtn./CSNM Noxious Weed Treatment	116-03-08	Jackson	$30,934
Section 1 Crushed Rock Stockpile	115-03-01	Jackson	$140,000
Native Seed Collection & Growout	115-03-08	Jackson	$80,000
Jackson Creek Fuels Reduction	116-03-08	Jackson	$29,000
Ginger Creek Progeny Test Site	115-03-05	Jackson	$10,000
Dump & Trash Clean up	116-03-04	Jackson	$17,000
Johns Peak Activity Plan/ EIS	116-03-07	Jackson	$269,000
Jackson Dam Spillway Repair	110-03-12	Jackson	$20,000
Jackson Creek Erosion Control	110-03-13	Jackson	$80,000
Jackson Creek Access Road Reconstruction	110-03-14	Jackson	$90,000
Little Butte/Bear Creek Water Mgmt.	110-03-15	Jackson	$99,000
Watershed Analysis Data Collection	110-03-17	Jackson	$6,691
Bear Creek Tree Planting	110-03-18	Jackson	$31,200
China Gulch Fuel Reduction	110-03-22	Jackson	$58,200
London Peak Trail Project	118-03-13	Josephine	$11,000
Illegal Dump Patrol & Cleanup	117-03-01	Josephine	$90,000
Noxious Weed Removal	118-03-14	Josephine	$32,000
R. River Rec. Section Weed Control	117-03-02	Josephine	$6,600
Grayback Mtn. Trail	117-03-03	Josephine	$61,660
Pacfica Trail const.	117-03-04	Josephine	$13,310
Picket Creek Road Chip Seal	117-03-05	Josephine	$48,400
Picket Ck. Fish Culvert	117-03-06	Josephine	$55,000
Cathedral Hills Trail	117-03-08	Josephine	$40,000
Middle Rogue Seedling Propagation	110-03-01	Josephine	$14,240
China Gulch Road Restoration	110-03-03	Josephine	$54,000
Rogue River Rec. & Trail Maint.	110-03-04	Josephine	$25,460
East Fork Fish Passage	110-03-06	Josephine	$8,639
Youth To Work	110-03-07	Josephine	$10,500

PLANNING AND NEPA DOCUMENTS

Plan Maintenance

The Medford District Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision (RMP/ROD) was approved in April 1995. Since then, the district has implemented the plan across the entire spectrum of resources and land use allocations. During the life of a plan, both minor changes or refinements and possibly major changes brought about by new information or policy may occur. The plan establishes mechanisms to respond to these situations. Maintenance actions respond to minor data changes and incorporation of activity plans. This maintenance is limited to further refining or documenting a previously approved decision incorporated in the plan. Plan maintenance will not result in expansion of the scope of resource uses or restrictions or change the terms, conditions, and decisions of the approved resource management plan. Maintenance actions are not considered a plan amendment and do not require the formal public involvement and interagency coordination process undertaken for plan amendments.

Previous plan maintenance has been published in past Medford District Annual Program Summaries. The following additional items have been implemented on the Medford District as part of the plan maintenance during fiscal year 2003. These plan maintenance items represent minor changes, refinements or clarifications that do not result in the expansion of the scope of resource uses or restrictions or change the terms, conditions and decisions of the approved resource management plan.

Plan Maintenance for Fiscal Year 2003

Survey and Manage Survey Protocol–Lichens Version 2.0. The protocol requires pre-disturbance surveys when proposed projects occur within the range, contain or lie within suitable habitat, and have the potential to cause significant negative effect on habitat or persistence at the site for any of the eight protocol species. Range and habitat are described for each species, and guidance is provided to assist line officers in determining the potential of a proposed project to cause significant negative effect on habitat or persistence. *Instruction Memorandum OR-2003-004 issued October 18, 2002.*

Protocol Revisions to the "Survey Protocol for the Red Tree Vole," Version 2.0. The Red Tree Vole Taxa Team was asked to review the current Survey Protocol, Version 2.0, for modifications that may be necessary due to recent information collected on the species from pre-project and strategic surveys as well as clarified direction regarding survey requirements as identified in the Survey and Manage (S&M) Record of Decision (ROD). *Instruction Memorandum OR-2003-003 issued October 23, 2002.*

Amendments to Survey and Manage Management Recommendations Designed to Facilitate Certain National Fire Plan Activities–Second Group: Red Tree Vole, Certain Mollusks and Amphibians. This memo contains amended Management Recommendations (MR) for an additional 14 mollusks and amphibian species, and the Oregon red tree vole. These MR amendments are designed to better facilitate fuels reduction activities around at-risk communities as suggested by the 2001 S&M ROD on page 12, and by the Standards and Guidelines (S&Gs) on page 20, for high fire frequency areas. *Instruction Memorandum OR-2003-045 issued January 31, 2003.*

Survey and Manage Survey Protocol–Terrestrial Mollusks Version 3.0. Attached is a revised Survey Protocol for terrestrial mollusk species prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *2001 Record of Decision for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation*

Measures Standards and Guidelines. This protocol is to be used for those species listed in management categories that require site-specific, pre-disturbance surveys (including equivalent effort surveys) prior to habitat-disturbing activities. *Instruction Memorandum OR-2003-044 issued February 21, 2003.*

Implementation of 2002 Survey and Manage Annual Species Review The second annual review for S&M species has been completed in compliance with the 2001 ROD for amendments to the S&M, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines (S&Gs), and the changes recommended in this review are hereby adopted (Enclosure 1). This memorandum changes the category placement for species displayed in Table 1-1 of the 2001 S&M ROD, as amended June 14, 2002. *Instruction Memorandum OR-2003-050.*

Marbled Murrelet Inland Survey Protocol Update. The attached 2003 Inland Survey Protocol, prepared by the Pacific Seabird Group, is an update and replacement of the 2000 version. The 2003 Protocol will be used as guidance for the survey of potential habitat for marbled murrelets on federal lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management in Oregon/Washington and California, and Regions 5 and 6 of the Forest Service subject to the clarifications contained in this memorandum. *Instruction Memorandum OR-2003-063 issued April 25, 2003.*

Survey and Manage Survey Protocol – Lichens Version 2.1. Instruction Memorandum No. OR-2003-004 transmitted version 2.0 to the field on October 18, 2002. The changes made in Version 2.1 are limited to the correction of errors found in the labels to some of the figures. No other changes were made to the protocol and all methodology and protocol requirements remain the same. *Instruction Memorandum OR-2003-078 issued June 9, 2003.*

Regeneration Stocking Surveys. The attached manual and handbook presents the baseline requirements and guidelines for conducting regeneration surveys, and instructions are applicable to Bureau of Land Management-administered lands in western Oregon. The State Director provides field personnel with minimum standards and guidelines for regeneration surveys, and District Managers are responsible for setting standards and acceptable range of the number of suitable trees per acre consistent with their Resource Management Plans. *Instruction Memorandum OR-2003-083 issued June 16, 2003.*

Transmittal of Exception to Survey and Manage Pre-disturbance Survey Requirements for Wildland Fire for Resource Benefits. This memo transmits information regarding and exception to the Survey and Manage pre-disturbance survey requirements for wildland fire for resource benefits. The attached RIEC memo dated July 31, 2003, states that no pre-disturbance surveys are required for wildland fires for resource benefits, regardless of land allocation, if specific conditions are met. *Instruction Memorandum OR-2003-099 issued August 8, 2003.*

Survey and Manage Survey Protocol–Lichens Version 2.1 Addendum. Attached is an addendum to the Species Information section (Section II) of version 2.1 of the Lichen Survey Protocol, released, on June 9, 2003, (Forest Service file code 1950, Bureau of Land Management Instruction Memorandum OR-2003-078, www.or.blm.gov/surveyandmanage), providing identification, habitat, and range information for seven lichen species. Four of the species (*Bryoria pseudocapillaris*, *Bryoria spiralifera*, *Dendriscocaulon intricatulum*, and *Nephroma occultum*) were added to Category A as a result of the *2001 Annual Species Review.* Predisturbance surveys have never been required for these species, and survey protocols have never been developed prior to this release. The three remaining species (*Hypogymnia duplicata*, *Lobaria linita*, and *Pseudocyphellaria rainierensis*) have required predisturbance surveys prior to this release under the survey protocol released on March 12, 1998 (Forest Service file code 1920/2600, Bureau of Land Management Instruction Memorandum OR-98-038, www.or.blm.gov/surveyandmanage). *Instruction Memorandum OR-2003-078 Change 1 issued September 22, 2003.*

MONITORING REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003

MONITORING REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2003

Introduction

This document represents the eighth monitoring report of the Medford District Resource Management Plan for which the Record of Decision was signed in April 1995. This monitoring report compiles the results of implementation monitoring of the eighth year of implementation of the Resource Management Plan. Included in this report are the projects that took place from October 2002 through September 2003. Effectiveness and validation monitoring will be conducted in subsequent years when projects mature or proceed long enough for the questions asked under these categories of monitoring to be answered.

Background

The BLM planning regulations (43 CFR 1610.4-9) call for the monitoring and evaluation of resource management plans at appropriate intervals.

Monitoring is an essential component of natural resource management because it provides information on the relative success of management strategies. The implementation of the RMP is being monitored to ensure that management actions:

- follow prescribed management direction (implementation monitoring),
- meet desired objectives (effectiveness monitoring) and
- are based on accurate assumptions (validation monitoring) (see Appendix L, Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan).

Some effectiveness monitoring and most validation monitoring will be accomplished by formal research. The nature of the questions concerning effectiveness monitoring require some maturation of implemented projects in order to discern results. This and validation monitoring will be conducted as appropriate in subsequent years.

Monitoring Overview

This monitoring report focuses on the implementation questions contained in the Resource Management Plan. Questions were separated into two lists, those which were project related and those which were more general and appropriately reported in the Annual Program Summary, such as accomplishment reports. (A copy of both lists are included in appendix B). The monitoring plan for the Resource Management Plan incorporates the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan for the Record of Decision for the Northwest Forest Plan.

Monitoring at multiple levels and scales along with coordination with other BLM and Forest Service units has been initiated through the Regional Interagency Executive Council (RIEC). At the request of the RIEC, the Regional Ecosystem Office started a regional-scale implementation monitoring program. This province-level monitoring was completed for the eighth year.

Monitoring Results and Findings

Implementation monitoring was based on a process developed by the Medford District Research and Monitoring Committee. The basis was Appendix L of the RMP/ROD. Questions were separated into two lists, those which were project related and those which were more general and appropriately reported in the Annual Program Summary or completed reports (copies of the questions are included in Appendix B). Projects were randomly selected for monitoring for the period from October 2002 to September 2003.

The following process was used for selecting individual projects to meet the RMP ROD implementation monitoring standards:

The list of projects occurring in FY 2003 were based on the following stratification:

- All advertised timber sales
- All silvicultural projects
- Riparian Restoration Projects
- Fish Habitat Enhancement Projects
- Wildlife Habitat Restoration Projects
- Fuel Reduction Projects
- Road Restoration Projects
- Miscellaneous Projects

By a random number plan, every fifth project from the list was selected to be monitored. (The monitoring plan in the ROD required 20 percent of projects within each area to be monitored.)

The NEPA documents, watershed analysis files and the Late-Successional Reserve Assessments applicable to each of the selected projects were reviewed and compared to answer the first part of the implementation monitoring question: "Were the projects prepared in accord with the underlying ROD requirements, NEPA and/or watershed analysis documentation, and/or Late-Successional Reserve Assessment documentation?"

A summary of the district monitoring follows.

Summary of Numbers and Types of Projects for FY 2003

Project Type	# Ashland RA	# Butte Falls RA	# Glendale RA	# Grants Pass RA	Total # District
Timber Sales	3	1	5	1	10
Silviculture Projects	4	0	1	2	7
Riparian Projects	0	0	0	0	0
Fish Habitat Projects	0	0	0	0	0
Wildlife Habitat Projects	0	0	0	0	0
Prescribed Burns	5	2	2	2	11
Road Restoration	4	0	0	0	4
Other Projects	22	6	16	17	61

Summary of Numbers and Types of Projects Selected for Monitoring FY 2003

Project Type	# Ashland RA	# Butte Falls RA	# Glendale RA	# Grants Pass RA	Total # District
Timber Sales	0	0	1	1	2
Silviculture Projects	1	0	0	1	2
Riparian Projects	0	0	0	0	0
Fish Habitat Projects	0	0	0	0	0
Wildlife Habitat Projects	0	0	0	0	0
Prescribed Burns	1	1	1	0	3
Road Restoration	1	0	0	0	1
Other Projects	5	1	3	3	12

Note: See Appendix A for all projects considered and projects selected for monitoring.

The monitoring team consisted of district team members and was supplemented with area personnel. Projects were selected for monitoring based on the guidelines contained in Appendix L of the RMP/ROD.

The Medford District started or completed 93 projects from October 2002 through September 2003. These projects included timber sales, small salvage sales, road rights-of-way, collection of special forest products and trail construction. The projects were sorted into the following categories:

Timber Sales
Silvicultural Projects
Wildlife Habitat
Road Restorations
Riparian Projects
Fish Habitat work
Prescribed Burns
Other

Projects that required environmental assessments or categorical exclusions were randomly selected for office and field review. Appendix L generally requires a 20 percent sample to be evaluated.

For each project selected, we answered the project-specific questions included in Appendix B. Questions of a general nature (Appendix B, second list of questions) are addressed in the specific program articles found in the beginning of this document.

The Medford District is divided into four resource areas. The resource area landscape planners prepared answers to the monitoring questions for the individual actions based on a review of the files and NEPA documentation. Some questions asked for information that required field review of projects before they were started and other questions required information gathered after projects were completed. Necessary monitoring field trips were conducted over the entire Medford District.

Findings

The Medford District monitoring group found a high level of compliance with the Standards and Guidelines (S&Gs) contained in the Medford Resource Management Plan and the Northwest Forest Plan. The results of our eighth year of monitoring evaluation continues to support our earlier observations that, overall, the District is doing a good job of implementing the NFP and the Medford District RMP. The District has planned and executed many ecologically sound management and restoration projects.

Field review of the timber sales and projects indicated that the intent and requirements for the S&Gs had been met for the sampled and completed projects.

Projects received field visits so that the selected monitoring questions could be answered or required pre-harvest measurements taken. The projects were reviewed in the field for the different factors listed below.

Special Attention Species
Coarse Woody Debris
Fish Habitat
Riparian Reserves
Wildlife Habitat
Structures in Riparian Reserves
Snag Retention
Special Status Species
Special Areas

Riparian reserves were measured and found to have the correct size buffers for the different type of streams. All projects were found to be in full compliance with the S&Gs from the record of decision. The project results and information on the monitoring process is available at the Medford District Office. As a result of observed very high compliance with management action/direction in the past eight years, no implementation or management adjustments are recommended.

A portion of the questions asked in the monitoring appendix concern projects that have not been completed and which deal with pretreatment conditions. Measurements of riparian reserves, surveys of green tree and snag retention, coarse woody debris levels, and special attention species were completed on projects and will be reviewed again when the project has been completed. Some projects may take up to three years to be completed.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A. MONITORING

Projects subjected to sampling:

Timber Sales

Galesville LSR Thin
Slim Jim Timber Sale
Deer Creek Timber Sale
How Perfect Timber Sale
Anderson West
Cottonsnake Timber Sale
Tunnel Thin Sale
Trail Creek Project
Bobar Timber Sale

Silvicultural Projects

PCT Release on Matrix
Boaz Forest Health & Small Diameter
Tree Planting & Radius Scalping
Young Stand Maint. Brushing & PCT
China Gulch Fuels Reduction
Slashbuster 4
Spring & Fall Tree Planting & Assoc. Maint.

Roads and Construction

Spencer Gulch Road Relocation
Jobs in the Woods Restoration
Davoli ROW, Pinehurst Airstrip
City of Jacksonville Road Repair

Prescribed Burn Projects

Handpile & Burn 2003
So. Or. Buttercup Restoration
Natl. Fire Plan Projects 21, 22, 23
Natl. Fire Plan Project Applegate Road
Rogue River Fuel Hazard Reduction
Grave Creek Forest Health
Natl. Fire Plan Projects 33, 34
Natl. Fire Plan Project Gilson Gulch 14
Fuel Reduction for Rural Residences
Marble Drive Fuel Hazard Reduction

Other

Mary Gray Land Sale
Dutch Mining Haul Permit
Boise Cascade ROW
H M 2000E
Benson Gulch Water Users ROW
Russell Creek & Hauck Road Use Permit
O & C Permit M-2112
Bobby Creek RNA
Deer Creek / Conde Division Fence
M660 Addition
M 2000F Addition
Whisky Creek Hazard Trees
O & C ROW Permit, Copper Queen
Middle Dog ROW
Tucker Flat Vault Toilet
Glendale Visitor Center
O&C Permit M-2109
Cow Creek Ditch Project
Meadow Wood RV Park
CSNM Livestock Impact & Enclosures
Pinehurst Elementary Well
Dr. Johnson ROW

BMR, Forest Creek ROW
National Guard, Conde Creek
Rock Pit Company
Steve Wolf ROW
Liles, ROW
Spring Exclosure, Heppsie
Road & Recreation Site maint.
Little Hyatt Dam Project
Dahack Roadside Salvage
National Guard Land Use Permit
Gold Nugget Vault Toilet
Rodriquez Soil Test Sites
Crawford Water & Power ROW
Biscuit Fire Rehab
China Basin Road Maint.
Hazard Tree Felling and Removal
Cathedral Hills Trail Construction
Rod Lowe Road & Pipeline ROW
Crawford Powerline / Waterline ROW
Boatnik 2003
Boyd, East Hyatt Lake ROW
Little Hyatt Field School
Jim Miller ROW
Oregon State University Study
Lily Glen Equestrian Maint.
Campground Hazard Trees
Reciprocal ROW
Buncom Sweep
Cold Hazard Tree Removal
North Trail Hazard Trees
Obenchain Roadside Salvage
Historic Rand CCC Camp
Powell Creek Fire Rehab
Cathedral Hills Trail Brushing
POC protocol
Beach Water Transmission Line ROW
Grayback Mountain Trail Const.
2003 Culvert Replacement
Smullin Visitor Center Expansion

FY 2003 Sampled Project List (by category)

Timber Sales

How Perfect
Anderson West

Silvicultural Projects

Slashbuster 4
Spring & Fall Tree Planting & Assoc. Maint.

Roads and Construction

Spencer Gulch Road Relocation

Prescribed Burn Projects

Trail Timber Sale
Free & Easy Timber Sale

Other

Whisky Creek Hazard Trees
O&C Road Use Permit M-2109
Dr. Johnson Anderson Butte ROW
Lily Glen Equestrian Maintenance
North Trail Hazard Trees
POC protocol
HM 2000E
Deer Creek/Conde Division Fence
Rock Pit Company
Little Hyatt Dam Project
Crawford Water & Power Line ROW
Rod Lowe Road & Pipeline ROW

APPENDIX B Implementation Monitoring for Fiscal Year 2003

The following two lists of questions have been used to record the Medford District Implementation Monitoring question results for FY 03. The first list, 2003 Project Specific RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions, have been used for specific projects for monitoring.

The second list, APS Related RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions have been addressed in the text of this Annual Program Summary.

Medford District
2003 Project Specific RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions

Listed below are the Implementation Monitoring Requirements and Questions as described in Appendix L of the Medford District ROD for the RMP.

All Land Use Allocations

Expected Future Conditions and Outputs

Protection of SEIS special attention species so as not to elevate their status to any higher level of concern.

Implementation Monitoring

1. Are surveys for the species listed in Appendix C conducted before ground-disturbing activities occur?

   Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes. Projects sampled: Whiskey Creek Overlook Hazard Tree Removal, Anderson West, How Perfect, Slashbuster 4, Spring and Fall Tree Planting and Associated Maintenance, Fuel Reduction for Rural Residence Protection, Spencer Gulch Road Relocation, HM 2000E ROW, O&C Road Use Permit M-2109, Deer Creek/Conde Division Fence, DR Johnson ROW, Rock Pit Camping, Lily Glen Equestrian Maintenance, Little Hyatt Dam Project, North Trail Hazard Trees, Crawford Water and Power Line ROW, POC protocol development, and Lowe Road and Pipeline ROW.

2. Are protection buffers being provided for specific rare and locally endemic species and other species in habitats identified in the upland forest matrix?

   Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes. Projects sampled: Whiskey Creek Overlook Hazard Tree Removal, Anderson West, How Perfect, Slashbuster 4, Spring and Fall Tree Planting and Associated Maintenance, Fuel Reduction for Rural Residence Protection, Spencer Gulch Road Relocation, HM 2000E ROW, O&C Road Use Permit M-2109, Deer Creek/Conde Division Fence, DR Johnson ROW, Rock Pit Camping, Lily Glen Equestrian Maintenance, Little Hyatt Dam Project, North Trail Hazard Trees, Crawford Water and Power Line ROW, POC protocol development, and Lowe Road and Pipeline ROW.

3. Are the sites of amphibians, mammals, bryophytes, mollusks, vascular plants, fungi, lichens, and arthropod species listed in Appendix C being protected?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes. Projects sampled: Whiskey Creek Overlook Hazard Tree Removal, Anderson West, How Perfect, Slashbuster 4, Spring and Fall Tree Planting and Associated Maintenance, Fuel Reduction for Rural Residence Protection, Spencer Gulch Road Relocation, HM 2000E ROW, O&C Road Use Permit M-2109, Deer Creek/Conde Division Fence, DR Johnson ROW, Rock Pit Camping, Lily Glen Equestrian Maintenance, Little Hyatt Dam Project, North Trail Hazard Trees, Crawford Water and Power Line ROW, POC protocol development, and Lowe Road and Pipeline ROW.

Riparian Reserves

Expected Future Conditions and Outputs

See Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives.

Implementation Monitoring

7. Are watershed analyses being completed before on-the-ground actions are initiated in Riparian Reserves?

Compliance/Monitoring Results--Yes, lists of watershed analyses completed by the end of FY 2003 are located in resource area files. Applicable watershed analyses were used as a basis for project environmental analysis.

8. Is the width and integrity of the Riparian Reserves being maintained?

Compliance/Monitoring Results--Yes, the Riparian Reserve widths have been based on the established guidelines. Projects sampled: Anderson West and How Perfect Timber Sales.

Riparian Width (150’)	# 1 = 151’
	# 2 = 201’
Riparian Width (100’)	# 3 = 116’
	# 4 = 117’
	# 5 = 142’
	# 6 = 129’

10A. Are management activities in Riparian Reserves consistent with SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines?

Compliance/Monitoring Results--Yes. Projects sampled: How Perfect, Anderson West, Slashbuster 4, Spring And Fall Tree Planting and Associated Maintenance, Spencer Gulch Road Relocation.

10B. Are management activities in Riparian Reserves consistent with RMP management direction?

Compliance/Monitoring Results--Yes. Projects sampled: How Perfect, Anderson West, Slashbuster 4, Spring and Fall Tree Planting and Associated Maintenance, Spencer Gulch Road Relocation.

10C. Are management activities in Riparian Reserves consistent with the Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

Compliance/Monitoring Results--Yes. Projects sampled: How Perfect, Anderson West, Slashbuster 4, Spring and Fall Tree Planting and Associated Maintenance, Spencer Gulch Road Relocation.

11. Are new structures and improvements in Riparian Reserves constructed to minimize the diversion of natural hydrologic flow paths, reduce the amount of sediment delivery into the stream, protect fish and wildlife populations, and accommodate the 100-year flood?

Compliance/Monitoring Results--N/A

12. A) Are all mining structures, support facilities, and roads located outside the riparian reserves? B) Are those located within the riparian reserves meeting the objectives of the aquatic conservation strategy? C) Are all solid and sanitary waste facilities excluded from riparian reserves or located, monitored, and reclaimed in accordance with SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines and RMP management direction?

Compliance/Monitoring Results--N/A

Matrix

19. Are suitable numbers of snags, coarse woody debris, and green trees being left following timber harvest as called for in the SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines and RMP management direction?

The timber sales reviewed had no regeneration harvests in them. In the timber sale units that had prescriptions for partial cutting such as thinning, numerous green trees and coarse woody debris is available.

20. Are timber sales being designed to meet ecosystem goals for the Matrix?

Yes, all timber sales are designed to meet ecosystem goals for the Matrix. All resources are analyzed for impacts including; wildlife, soils, hydrology, plants, social, cultural, as well as others.

21. Are late-successional stands being retained in fifth-field watersheds in which federal forest lands have 15 percent or less late-successional forest?

Compliance/Monitoring Results--No regeneration harvests were planned in any watersheds that had 15 percent or less late-successional forest in them. RMP objectives were met.

Air Quality

23. Were efforts made to minimize the amount of particulate emissions from prescribed burns?

Two sales were selected for monitoring particulate emissions: Trail and Free & Easy. The timber sales have not been completed yet. Burn units will have individual burn unit plans developed for them and be carried out when prescribed conditions are available. Overall particulate emissions can be minimized from prescribed burning through ignition timing, aggressive mop-up, and the reduction of large heavy fuels consumed by fire.

24. Are dust abatement measures used during construction activities and on roads during BLM timber harvest operations and other BLM commodity hauling activities?

The timber sales contain abatement specifications as part of the contract. Water is required to abate dust during the construction phase of the contract.

Soil and Water

26. Are site-specific Best Management Practices identified as applicable during interdisciplinary review carried forward into project design and execution?

The How Perfect and Anderson West timber sales were the two timber sales selected. Both timber sales have not been completed yet, but best management practices where examined based on contract specifications. Skid trail locations are to be approved ahead of time, the maximum area for skid trails is to be less than 12 percent of the area, existing skid roads are to be used when available, tractor yarding will be limited seasonally.

27B. Are watershed analyses being performed prior to management activities in key watersheds?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes. Lists of watershed analyses completed by the end of FY 2003 are located in resource area files. Applicable watershed analyses were used as a basis for project environmental analysis.

Wildlife Habitat

38. Are suitable (diameter, length and numbers) of snags, coarse woody debris, and green trees being left in a manner that meets the needs of species and provides for ecological functions in harvested areas as called for in the SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines and RMP management direction?

Yes. The timber sales reviewed had no regeneration harvests in them. In the timber sale units that had prescriptions for partial cutting such as thinning, numerous green trees and coarse woody debris are available.

39. Are special habitats being identified and protected?

Compliance/Monitoring Results--Yes. Projects sampled: How Perfect and Anderson West timber sale. Seasonal restrictions are in place for spotted owl habitat and buffers on riparian reserves and for special status plants have been put in place.

Fish Habitat

42. Are at-risk fish species and stocks being identified?

The Anderson West timber sale has identified at-risk fish species and has design features to avoid adverse impacts to it.

44. Are potential adverse impacts to fish habitat and fish stocks being identified?

Yes. The Anderson West timber sale has identified at-risk fish species and has design features to avoid adverse impacts to it.

Special Status Species and SEIS Special Attention Species and Habitat

46. Are special status species being addressed in deciding whether or not to go forward with forest management and other actions? During forest management and other actions that may disturb special status species, are steps taken to adequately mitigate disturbances?

The Medford District has consulted with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on various management projects. All major ground disturbing activities involve discussion with USFWS concerning special status species. This may consist of a verbal discussion, or range up to and include a formal biological assessment. Projects reviewed were the following: Trail, Free and Easy, Anderson West, and How Perfect timber sales.

47. Are the actions identified in plans to recover species and the requirements and recommendations in the biological opinion being implemented in a timely manner?

Recovery plans are met or exceeded.

Special Areas

53A. Are BLM actions and BLM authorized actions/uses near or within special areas consistent with RMP objectives and management direction for special areas?

The following projects were selected because of their close proximity to certain special areas:

N/A

53B. If mitigation was required, was it incorporated in the authorization document?

No mitigation was required, projects were not close to any special areas.

53C. If mitigation was required, was it carried out as planned?

No mitigation required.

Cultural Resources Including American Indian Values

60A. Are cultural resources being addressed in deciding whether or not to go forward with forest management and other actions?

Cultural surveys were completed. Yes. Projects sampled: Whiskey Creek Overlook Hazard Tree Removal, Anderson West, How Perfect, Slashbuster 4, Spring and Fall Tree Planting and Associated Maintenance, Fuel Reduction for Rural Residence Protection, Spencer Gulch Road Relocation, HM 2000E ROW, O&C Road Use Permit M-2109, Deer Creek/Conde Division Fence, DR Johnson ROW, Rock Pit Camping, Lily Glen Equestrian Maintenance, Little Hyatt Dam Project, North Trail Hazard Trees, Crawford Water and Power Line ROW, POC protocol development, and Lowe Road and Pipeline ROW.

60B. During forest management and other actions that may disturb cultural resources, are steps taken to adequately mitigate?

No mitigation required.

Visual Resources

64. Are visual resource design features and mitigation methods being followed during timber sales and other substantial actions in Class II and III areas?

Compliance/Monitoring Results—Yes. Projects sampled: Whiskey Creek Overlook Hazard Tree Removal, Anderson West, How Perfect, Slashbuster 4, Spring and Fall Tree Planting and Associated Maintenance, Fuel Reduction for Rural Residence Protection, Spencer Gulch Road Relocation, HM 2000E ROW, O&C Road Use Permit M-2109, Deer Creek/Conde Division Fence, DR Johnson ROW, Rock Pit Camping, Lily Glen Equestrian Maintenance, Little Hyatt Dam Project, North Trail Hazard Trees, Crawford Water and Power Line ROW, POC protocol development, and Lowe Road and Pipeline ROW.

Wild and Scenic Rivers

65. Are BLM actions and BLM authorized actions consistent with protection of the ORVs of designated, suitable, and eligible, but not studied, rivers?

Compliance/Monitoring Results--N/A

Rural Interface Areas

67. Are design features and mitigation measures developed and implemented to avoid/minimize impacts to health, life, property, and quality of life and to minimize the possibility of conflicts between private and federal land management?

Projects sampled: How Perfect Timber sale, Anderson West, Slashbuster 4, Spring and Fall Tree Planting, National Fire Plan project (38), Fuel Reduction for Rural Residence, Spencer Gulch Road Relocation, Little Hyatt Dam Project, North Trail Hazard Trees, Crawford Water and Powerline, and Lowe Road and Pipeline ROW.

Noxious Weeds

76. Are noxious weed control methods compatible with Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

Yes. Projects sampled: Whiskey Creek Overlook Hazard Tree Removal, Anderson West, How Perfect, Slashbuster 4, Spring and Fall Tree Planting and Associated Maintenance, Fuel Reduction for Rural Residence Protection, Spencer Gulch Road Relocation, HM 2000E ROW, O&C Road Use Permit M-2109, Deer Creek/Conde Division Fence, DR Johnson ROW, Rock Pit Camping, Lily Glen Equestrian Maintenance, Little Hyatt Dam Project, North Trail Hazard Trees, Crawford Water and Power Line ROW, POC protocol development, and Lowe Road and Pipeline ROW.

Medford District
APS Related RMP Implementation Monitoring Questions

This list of questions are addressed in the text of this Annual Program Summary.

All Land Use Allocations

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 225)

4. Are the sites of amphibians, mammals, bryophytes, mollusks, vascular plants, fungi, lichens, and arthropod species listed in Appendix C being surveyed as directed in the SEIS ROD?

5. Are high priority sites for species management being identified?

6. Are general regional surveys being conducted to acquire additional information and to determine necessary levels of protection for arthropods and fungi species that were not classed as rare and endemic, bryophytes, and lichens?

Riparian Reserves

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 226)

9A. What silvicultural practices are being applied to control stocking, re-establish and manage stands, and acquire desired vegetation characteristics needed to attain Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

9B. Are management actions creating a situation where riparian reserves are made more susceptible to fire?

13A. Are new recreation facilities within the Riparian Reserves designed to meet, and where practicable, contribute to Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

13B. Are mitigation measures initiated where existing recreation facilities are not meeting Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

Late Successional Reserves

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 228)

14. What is the status of the preparation of assessments and fire plans for Late-Successional Reserves?

15A. What activities were conducted or authorized within Late-Successional Reserves and how were they compatible with the objectives of the Late-Successional Reserve Assessment?

15B. Were the activities consistent with SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines, with RMP management direction, and Regional Ecosystem Office review requirements, and the Late-Successional Reserve assessment?

16. What is the status of development and implementation of plans to eliminate or control non-native species which adversely impact late-successional objectives?

17. What land acquisitions occurred, or are under way, to improve the area, distribution, and quality of late-successional reserves?

Adaptive Management Areas

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 229)

18A. Are the adaptive management area (AMA) plans being developed?

18B. Do the AMA plans establish future desired conditions?

Matrix

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 230)

22. What is the age and type of the harvested stands?

Air Quality

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 231)

25A. Are conformity determinations being prepared prior to activities which may: contribute to a new violation of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, increase the frequency or severity of an existing violation, or delay the timely attainment of a standard?

25B. Has and interagency monitoring grid been established in southwestern Oregon?

Soil and Water

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 232)

27A. What watershed analyses have been or are being performed?

28. In watersheds where municipal providers have agreements, have the agreements been checked to determine if the terms and conditions have been met?

29. What is the status of identification of instream flow needs for the maintenance of channel conditions, aquatic habitat, and riparian resources?

30. What watershed restoration projects are being developed and implemented?

31. What fuel treatment and fire suppression strategies have been developed to meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

32. What is the status of development of road or transportation management plans to meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

33. What is the status of preparation of criteria and standards which govern the operation, maintenance, and design for the construction and reconstruction of roads?

34A. What is the status of the reconstruction of roads and associated drainage features identified in watershed analysis as posing a substantial risk?

34B. What is the status of closure or elimination of roads to further Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives and to reduce the overall road mileage within Key Watersheds?

34C. If funding is insufficient to implement road mileage reductions, are construction and authorizations through discretionary permits denied to prevent a net increase in road mileage in key watersheds?

35. What is the status of reviews of ongoing research in key watersheds to ensure that significant risk to the watershed does not exist?

36A. What is the status of evaluation of recreation, interpretive, and user-enhancement activities/facilities to determine their effects on the watershed?

36B. What is the status of eliminating or relocating these activities/facilities when found to be in conflict with Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

37A. What is the status of cooperation with other agencies in the development of watershed-based Research Management Plans and other cooperative agreements to meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

37B. What is the status of cooperation with other agencies to identify and eliminate wild ungulate impacts which are inconsistent with attainment of Aquatic Conservation Strategy objectives?

Wildlife Habitat

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 234)

40. What is the status of designing and implementing wildlife habitat restoration projects?

41. What is the status of designing and constructing wildlife interpretive and other user-enhancement facilities?

Fish Habitat

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 235)

42. Are at-risk fish species and stocks being identified?

43. Are fish habitat restoration and enhancement activities being designed and implemented which contribute to attainment of aquatic conservation strategy objectives?

44. Are potential adverse impacts to fish habitat and fish stocks being identified?

Special Status Species and SEIS Special Attention Species and Habitat

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 236)

48. What coordination with other agencies has occurred in the management of special status species?

49. What land acquisitions occurred or are underway to facilitate the management and recovery of special status species?

50. What site-specific plans for the recovery of special status species were, or are being, developed?

51. What is the status of analysis which ascertains species requirements or enhances the recovery or survival of a species?

52. What is the status of efforts to maintain or restore the community structure, species composition, and ecological processes of special status plant and animal habitat?

Special Areas

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 238)

54. What is the status of the preparation, revision, and implementation of ACEC management plans?

55A. Are interpretive programs and recreation uses being developed and encouraged in ONAs?

55B. Are the outstanding values of the ONAs being protected from damage?

56. What environmental education and research initiatives and programs are occurring in the RNAs and EEAs?

57. Are existing BLM actions and BLM authorized actions and uses not consistent with management direction for special areas being eliminated or relocated?

58A. Are actions being identified which are needed to maintain or restore the important values of the special areas?

58B. Are the actions being implemented?

59. Are protection buffers being provided for specific rare and locally endemic species and other species in habitats identified in the SEIS ROD?

Cultural Resources Including American Indian Values

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 239)

61. What mechanisms have been developed to describe past landscapes and the role of humans in shaping those landscapes?

62. What efforts are being made to work with American Indian groups to accomplish cultural resource objectives and achieve goals outlined in existing memoranda of understanding and to develop additional memoranda as needs arise?

63. What public education and interpretive programs were developed to promote the appreciation of cultural resources?

Wild and Scenic Rivers

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 241)

66A. Are existing plans being revised to conform to aquatic conservation strategy objectives?

66B. Are revised plans being implemented?

Socioeconomic Conditions

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 243)

68. What strategies and programs have been developed, through coordination with state and local governments, to support local economies and enhance local communities?

69. Are RMP implementation strategies being identified that support local economies?

70. What is the status of planning and developing amenities (such as recreation and wildlife viewing facilities) that enhance local communities?

Recreation

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 244)

71. What is the status of the development and implementation of recreation plans?

Timber Resources

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 245)

72. By land-use allocation, how do timber sale volumes, harvested acres, and the age and type of regeneration harvest stands compare to the projections in the SEIS ROD Standards and Guidelines and RMP management objectives?

73. Were the silvicultural (e.g., planting with genetically selected stock, fertilization, release, and thinning) and forest health practices anticipated in the calculation of the expected sale quantity implemented?

Special Forest Products

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 246)

Implementation Monitoring

74. Is the sustainability and protection of special forest product resources ensured prior to selling special forest products?

75. What is the status of the development and implementation of specific guidelines for the management of individual special forest products?

Fire/Fuels Management

(RMP/ROD, Appendix L, page 247)

77. What is the status of the preparation and implementation of fire management plans for Late-Successional Reserves and Adaptive Management Areas?

78. Have additional analysis and planning been completed to allow some natural fires to burn under prescribed conditions?

79. Do wildfire suppression plans emphasize maintaining late-successional habitat?

80. Have fire management plans been completed for all at risk late successional areas?

81. What is the status of the interdisciplinary team preparation and implementation of regional fire management plans which include fuel hazard reduction plans?

APPENDIX C. SUMMARY OF ONGOING PLANS AND ANALYSES

Integrated Pest Management

The Draft EIS was completed and distributed to the public in June 2003. The *Integrated Pest Management Plan* is needed primarily because of a significant loss of seed to cone insects and other pests. Insecticide use and other alternatives would be considered to control the pests. The plan would only apply to IPM activities within the seed orchards themselves. The Final EIS is expected to be available in July 2004.

Timbered Rock Fire Salvage EIS

The *Draft Timbered Rock Fire Salvage Environmental Impact Statement* was completed in August of 2003. The plan describes and analyzes the impacts of seven alternatives for possible salvage opportunities resulting from the Timbered Rock Fire. The alternatives are designed to achieve a variety of land management and restoration objectives. The Final EIS came out in December of 2003 and the Record of Decision in March of 2004.

Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument Management Plan

This management plan has been in the works since the President made the area a National Monument. The draft document was completed and made available to the public in May of 2002. The Final Plan/EIS is planned to be completed in August 2004.

Timber Mountain/John's Peak OHV Plan

This Management Plan has just been started and two public meetings were held during the scoping process. The scoping process seeks ideas, issues, and comments from the public to be able to capture all the concerns that may exist. The draft plan is expected to be completed in the Fall of 2004.

Rogue River RAMP

The *Rogue National Wild and Scenic River: Hellgate Recreation Management Plan* was completed in March of 2003. The plan covers the 27-mile stretch from the confluence of the Applegate River to Grave Creek. The Final EIS was available in March for a 30-day availability period. Distribution of a Record of Decision is expected to occur in Spring of 2004.

Kelsey/Whisky Final EIS

The *Kelsey/Whisky Final Landscape Management Plan Amendments and Final Environmental Impact Statement* was completed in March of 2003. The Landscape Plan describes and analyzes the impacts of four alternatives for managing the public lands within the Kelsey/Whisky Landscape planning area. The alternatives are designed to achieve a variety of land management and restoration objectives. A Record of Decision was distributed in 2003.

APPENDIX D. ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ACEC - Area of Critical Environmental Concern
AMA - Adaptive Management Area
ASQ - Allowable Sale Quantity
BLM - Bureau of Land Management
CBWR - Coos Bay Wagon Road
CCF - Hundred cubic feet
CFR - Code of Federal Regulations
DEQ - Department of Environmental Quality
EEA - Environmental Education Area
FY - Fiscal Year
GCDB - Geographic Coordinates Data Base
GFMA - General Forest Management Area
GIS - Geographic Information System
GPS - Global Positioning System
LSF - Late Successional Forest
LSR - Late-Successional Reserve
MBF - Thousand board feet
MMBF - Million board feet
MOU - Memorandum of Understanding
NFP - Northwest Forest Plan
O&C - Oregon and California Revested Lands
ODEQ - Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
ODFW - Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
OSHA - Occupational Safety and Health Administration
OSU - Oregon State University
PD - Public Domain Lands
PILT - Payment in Lieu of Taxes
PL - Public Law
REO - Regional Ecosystem Office
RIEC - Regional Interagency Executive Committee
RMP - Resource Management Plan
RMP/ROD - The Medford District Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision
RNA - Research Natural Area
ROD - Record of Decision
SA - Special Attention Species
S&G - Standards and Guidelines
SS - Special Status Species
USFS - U.S. Forest Service

APPENDIX E. DEFINITIONS

AMA - Adaptive Management Area—The Medford District's Applegate AMA is managed to restore and maintain late-successional forest habitat while developing and testing management approaches to achieve the desired economic and other social objectives.

Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)—An area of BLM administered lands where special management attention is needed to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources, or other natural systems or processes; or to protect life and provide safety from natural hazards.

candidate species—Plant and animal taxa considered for possible addition to the List of Endangered and Threatened Species. These are taxa for which the Fish and Wildlife Service has on file sufficient information on biological vulnerability and threat(s) to support issuance of a proposal to list, but issuance of a proposed rule is currently precluded by higher priority listing actions.

fiscal year—The federal financial year. It is a period of time from October 1 of one year to September 31 of the following year.

hazardous materials—Anything that poses a substantive present or potential hazard to human health or the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of or otherwise managed.

iteration—Something said or performed again; repeated.

late successional reserve—A forest in its mature and/or old-growth stages that has been reserved.

matrix land—Federal land outside of reserves and special management areas which will be available for timber harvest at varying levels.

noxious plant/weed—A plant specified by law as being especially undesirable, troublesome, and difficult to control.

precommercial thinning—The practice of removing some of the trees less than merchantable size from a stand so that remaining trees will grow faster.

prescribed fire—A fire burning under specified conditions that will accomplish certain planned objectives.

Regional Interagency Executive Council—A senior regional interagency entity which assures the prompt, coordinated, successful implementation at the regional level of the forest management plan standards and guidelines .

research natural area—An area that contains natural resource values of scientific interest and is managed primarily for research and educational purposes.

Resource Management Plan—A land use plan prepared by the BLM under current regulations in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

riparian reserves—Designated riparian areas found outside late successional reserves.

SEIS Special Attention Species—A term which incorporates the "Survey and Manage" and "Protection Buffer" species from the Northwest Forest Plan.

silvicultural prescription—A detailed plan, usually written by a forest silviculturist, for controlling the establishment, composition, constitution, and growth of forest stands.

site preparation—Any action taken in conjunction with a reforestation effort (natural or artificial) to create an environment that is favorable for survival of suitable trees during the first growing season. This environment can be created by altering ground cover, soil or microsite conditions, using biological, mechanical, or manual clearing, prescribed burns, herbicides or a combination of methods.

Special Status Species—Plant or animal species in any of the following categories

- Threatened or Endangered Species
- Proposed Threatened or Endangered Species
- Candidate Species
- State-listed Species
- Bureau Sensitive Species
- Bureau Assessment Species

stream mile—A linear mile of stream.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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